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THE GAY WEEKLY 50¢

MARCH 22, 1980

Gay Community News



**11 Men Arrested
In Library
Restroom Raid**

**New National
Organization
Planned**

**Gay
Double
Croctic**

**Gays
Support the
Nicaraguan
Revolution**



John Tobin photo

Organizers of last October's March on Washington plan to establish a new national organization.

March Coalition Plans New Group

By Bennett Klein

OBERLIN, OH — At its first national meeting since the October 14 march in the nation's capital, the National Coalition for the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights announced plans to form a new national organization in the spring of 1981 that would unite grass-roots organizations and activists throughout the nation and coordinate various actions nationwide.

Over 100 lesbians and gay men from various parts of the country met during the weekend of March 7-9 at Oberlin College for the "Post-March on Washington Policy Conference." The announced purpose of the conference was to "determine what will be done with the network which was established while organizing for the March."

Delegations came to the Oberlin Conference from as far away as Los Angeles, Northern California, Houston, Atlanta and Alaska. While the conference did attain the goals of gender parity and minority participation that the march organization achieved at its Houston Conference in July, 1979, the delegates assured voting parity by distributing one extra vote to all women and all Third World persons present. The conference also accepted a recommendation from the credentials committee that the youth caucus

be granted an additional seven delegates to increase participation by lesbian and gay youth.

Representatives of national organizations also attended, including the National Lesbian Feminist Organization, the Gay Atheists League of America, and the North American Man/Boy Love Association.

The assembly nominated six co-chairpersons for the conference at the caucus meetings Friday night and approved them at plenary session Saturday morning.

Committee Reports on the March

Steve Ault, former co-coordinator of the March's national office, presented an analysis of the march. Ault noted that the March "may have been the most important event since the Stonewall Riots." He noted the inclusion of frequently disenfranchised elements such as lesbians and Third World persons and the creation of new state coalitions, "forming a much more cohesive, dynamic and powerful grass roots movement in this country."

Ault also noted, however, the limited support from major organizations, including the United Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), the National Gay Task Force (NGTF), and Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL). "Those people," Ault said, "were not able to put the march together. The grass-

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NOW Plans Chicago March For ERA

Compiled by Denise Sudell

CHICAGO, IL — A national march and rally to demand ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) by the Illinois state legislature is being planned by the National Organization for Women (NOW). NOW has called the march, to be held in Chicago, for May 10 — the day before Mother's Day.

"The purpose of the march is to show nationwide support for the Equal Rights Amendment; the vote for ratification in Illinois is coming up this spring," Betsy Thomas Enochs of the national office coordinating the march told GCN.

Plans for the march are being coordinated by NOW; the march is being co-sponsored by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), with other co-sponsoring organizations currently being lined up, accord-

ing to Enochs. "It [the march] has been in planning for some time; we just began planning the details."

The march organizers will be asking "all kinds of groups . . . from labor, unions, all the different issue areas" for help on the march, Enochs said. The outreach effort will be similar to that done for the ERA March on Washington held July 9, 1978, which attracted over 100,000 persons. NOW is planning to contact organizations which have passed resolutions supporting the ERA and pledging not to hold conferences in states which have not yet ratified the amendment. No outreach has been done to lesbian and gay groups as yet — "again, because we've just opened the office." But individual lesbians are working to help plan the march, she said.

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Eleven Men Arrested In Library Restroom Raid

By Mitzel

Eleven men were entrapped by police in men's room at the Boston Public Library (BPL). The arrests took place between 6 and 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11.

All eleven were taken to the lockup at District Four and charged with open and gross lewdness, a felony, which upon conviction carries a maximum penalty of \$500 or five years in prison or both.

Several of the arrested called the offices of the *Gay Community News* for assistance. All GCN staffers had left for the night. The collective of *Fag Rag*, a radical men's journal, however, was in meeting. The *Fag Rag* staff went down to District Four to provide bail for those who needed it and to offer support and advice.

The 11 men, after being held for four hours, were released on \$10 bond apiece. On March 12, 10 of the 11 appeared in Boston Municipal Court for arraignment. Trial dates have been set for April 7 and

April 14.

Dept. Sup. James McDonald of the Boston Police refused to tell GCN if uniformed officers or plainclothes police were used in this operation. When asked if he had received any complaints about the library, McDonald said: "We don't need complaints to enforce the law." He then read a letter which appeared in the March 6 edition of the *Boston Globe*, from an Ivan Gold, which purported to communicate the man's fear for his son's safety as well as for his own in the men's room of the Boston Public Library.

These 11 arrests came almost exactly two years to the day after a similar police entrapment program dragnetted 103 men in March 1978. These 1978 arrests led to a massive demonstration of over 500 people in front of the library. They also led to an agreement between city officials and leaders of gay groups in Boston that undercover police solicitation and entrapment in public rest-

rooms would not be used by Boston police.

Dept. Sup. McDonald said he didn't know anything about any such agreement. He said: "I'm not going to tell anyone about anything before we make arrests. This is part of the usual, continuous operation."

According to one of the men arrested, at least two plainclothes police officers were stationed in the men's room at the BPL that evening. One stood at a urinal and allegedly manipulated his penis. Whether or not any interest was displayed by the police victim, an arrest was made. No actual contact took place between the soliciting police officer and his target he said.

Despite police claims in the arraignment court that the arrested men were all masturbating, one of the arrested men told GCN it was in fact the police officer who engaged in masturbation 11 times.

The two police officers working this operation were Angelo Terrizzi and John Martel. Both of these men were involved in the March 1978 dragnet. Terrizzi has been named as a defendant, as has BPL Director Phil McNiff, in a massive federal civil suit. One of those arrested in 1978 alleges he was falsely arrested by Terrizzi and that Terrizzi later gave false testimony at his trial. This federal suit has been filed by Atty. John Ward of the Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD).

One of the men arrested heard one officer tell the other: "Only get two more. I only have two more forms."

When the *Fag Rag* staff arrived
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Boston Public Library, where the raid took place.

Gays Blast Letter On Carter

Compiled By Dan Daniel

WASHINGTON, DC — A letter which discusses the track record of the Carter Administration in the area of lesbian and gay rights, and which seeks to elicit lesbian/gay support for the reelection campaign of Jimmy Carter, has been drafted by the Carter/Mondale campaign chair, Robert Strauss, and sent to National Gay Task Force (NGTF) Co-Executive Directors Lucia Valeska and Charles F. Brydon. The letter, dated March 3, is in response to a questionnaire sent to Carter by NGTF last November.

Stating that Carter, in his 1976 Presidential campaign "was the first major Presidential contender to openly discuss gay concerns," Strauss cited several factors which he perceived as advances made under the current Administration. He noted that senior White House advisers met with NGTF representatives three months after Carter took office; that Carter led a legislative effort "to overhaul the country's outmoded civil service laws" which resulted in the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act which, among other things, prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation; and that Carter established the Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy "to review the need for changes in our immigration laws."

Strauss did not respond to a question about whether the President would support a lesbian/gay rights plank in the platform of the Democratic Party. He hedged on

the issue of support for HR 2074, the lesbian/gay civil rights bill introduced by Reps. Henry Waxman (D-CA) and Ted Weiss (D-NY).

"We are mystified by the absence of a response to our question concerning a Democratic Party platform plank," said Brydon and Valeska in a statement. "This omission, by an Administration that prides itself on its human rights record, is difficult to understand. A statement of agreement in principle rather than prior commitment to specific language would have been welcome."

Strauss sidestepped a direct response to the question of support for HR 2074, stating that "the Administration's legislative policy requires that prior to the adoption of a position on specific legislation, the bill must be circulated to the affected agencies and departments for review and comment. That process is normally initiated if the Administration has been invited to testify on the bill. However, as of this date, no hearing has been made as the legislative process proceeds."

"The idea that you wait to be invited to testify before you analyze an issue is just bullshit," commented Steve Endean, executive director of the Gay Rights National Lobby. Under the Carter administration, Endean said, "I have not seen any appreciable gains at all in terms of legislative efforts in the Congress."

Endean went on to say that HR

2074 has been in the Congress since 1975, since before Carter assumed office, and now has 54 cosponsors. He said it is "a clear, uncomplicated piece of legislation" and termed Strauss' hedging on the issue of support for it "a clear smokescreen to avoid taking a stand on what is an issue of basic justice."

"We are surprised that the Administration has chosen to hide behind a procedural curtain regarding a position on the legislation in Congress to amend the Civil Rights Acts [of 1964 and 1968] to protect gays," Valeska and Brydon said. "This could have been addressed in principle reserving commitment on details of the bill for later study. Does the President mean by this position that there are exceptions to his

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President Jimmy Carter

News Notes

quote of the week

"I think the President's record on that [gay rights], and I'm not going to paraphrase it here, but he has a record on that, a stated record, a very specific record and it's crystal clear."

— Robert Strauss, head of President Jimmy Carter's re-election campaign, responding to a question about Carter's position on gay rights at a Miami press conference reported in the Miami *Herald* on Feb. 29. The response is printed in its entirety.

whitman club announces endorsement

PHILADELPHIA, PA — The Walt Whitman Democratic Club, an organization of gay Democrats in this city, has endorsed three candidates for the April 22 Democratic Party primary. Endorsed by the Club were: C. Delores Tucker for U.S. Senator, Walter Phillips for Attorney General, and Hardy Williams for 1st District Congressional seat.

In explaining the endorsements, the club said it had chosen Tucker because of her pledge to co-sponsor a federal gay rights measure and because of "the need to form stronger minority group coalitions."

The selection of Walter Phillips for endorsement for attorney general over State Senator Michael O'Pake came about "because of O'Pake's vote several years ago for Senate Bill 83, an anti-gay bill." Phillips has also agreed to testify before the legislature in favor of decriminalizing consensual sex between adults.

Hardy Williams received the club's endorsement for Congress because of his assurance to them that he would co-sponsor a federal gay rights measure.

passing the buck

WASHINGTON, DC — Police and fire officials and aides to Washington Mayor Marion Barry are clashing over who allowed 1,100 patrons of a gay dance to pack into a warehouse with 11 fire code violations recently.

Although the promoters of the party, Brian Walach and Jeffrey L. Blake, were turned down for a permit, the dance, called "Decadence," was allowed to take place. Fire Chief Norman Richardson told the *Washington Star* that he personally attempted to close the dance down, but police officials on hand refused, citing the possibility of violence from angry partygoers.

Battalion Fire Chief Gerald Eckholm charged that Marie Dias, the mayor's liaison to the gay community, and Samuel Jordan, of the mayor's Command Center, had tried to encourage the fire department to allow the dance to go on. Sources within the fire department claimed that the mayor did not want to anger his strong gay constituency.

Assistant Police Chief Maurice Turner said the fire department had the power to enforce the fire code and close down the dance, but Eckholm said that it was the police department's job. Turner later said that his department would back up such requests in the future.

help against sexual harassment

NEW YORK, NY — A National Sexual Harassment Legal Back-Up Center has opened in New York City to assist women in combatting on-the-job sexual harassment by supervisors. The center will prepare friend of the court briefs, assist lawyers handling sexual harassment cases and seek to extend legal protection against harassment. The center will be able to refer women to local lawyers familiar with such cases and will also have a full-time lawyer on its staff. The center came out of the Working Women's Institute, a local group involved in fighting sexual harassment, and engaged in research and lobbying on working women's issues. The center is located at 593 Park Ave., New York, NY, telephone (212) 838-4420.

vermont women march

MONTPELIER, VT — Over one hundred women marched through the snowy streets of this city to celebrate International Women's Day on Saturday, March 8. The march and rally focused on anti-draft, anti-war and feminist issues. The women marched from City Hall to the State House chanting "Our voices will be heard" and "No war for oil."

After the march the demonstrators held a rally at the Unitarian Church, where they heard speeches and poetry. Speakers drew parallels between the anti-war and anti-draft movements of 10-15 years ago with today's movement.

The march/rally was organized by the Vermont Women's Coalition. The coalition was formed two months ago when women from Montpelier and Burlington met to discuss the draft.

hostility to disco?

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — The former managing director of this city's War Memorial, which includes the Opera House and Herbst Theater, plans to file a \$5 million lawsuit against the War Memorial Board of Trustees and the city, claiming that he was fired "out of hostility to gays in position of responsibility."

The board voted 8-0, with three absent, to fire Michael Raines after he had been managing director for 14 months. Board of Trustees President Philip Boone told reporters, "It's not an issue of whether or not Mr. Raines is or is not alleged to be a homosexual. The issue is whether he is qualified for the position of general manager. This is the only issue and he has been found wanting."

Raines believes his differences with the board began last spring when he booked Sylvester, described by the San Francisco *Examiner* as "a disco star with a preference for glittery gowns who has a large gay following," into the Opera House.

One board member, Raines said, admonished him to "never do this again."

march on albany

ALBANY, NY — A group of New York lesbians and gay activists have called for a statewide March on Albany on April 12, 1980. The demands of the March are similar to the October March on Washington and include that the New York State Legislature: 1) repeal all anti-lesbian/gay laws, including consensual sodomy, solicitation, loitering, prostitution and any others which are used to harass and victimize lesbians and gay men, and to free all people now in prison because of these laws; 2) pass a comprehensive lesbian and gay rights law; 3) force Governor Carey to honor his campaign pledge to issue an Executive Order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation; 4) end discrimination in lesbian mother and gay father child custody cases; and 5) defend lesbian and gay youth from any laws which are used to discriminate against them.

The march organizers have called for 50% lesbian and 20% Third World participation in all march planning and activity.

On April 13, the day after the march and rally, a statewide conference will be held to consider forming a statewide Lesbian and Gay Rights Coalition.

resource network for lesbian mothers

CAMBRIDGE, MA — Janus House announces the formation of a resource network for lesbian mothers. Lesbian mothers will meet during the next 12 weeks to discuss a range of topics, including coming out to children, friendship networks, expectations of those we love, using traditional agencies, and dealing with fathers. When possible, readings will be suggested on the week's topic. (Watch *GCN* calendar for listings.)

In-the-home child care will be provided by a group of lesbian women considering parenthood. Women in need of child care should call (617) 661-2537 and leave a message for Toni in Box 348. A week's notice is requested.

Toni Schiff and Alice Fisher are the co-facilitators of the resource network. They expect the network to fill a variety of needs for those who participate including learning other women's stories about being mothers, finding out about existing resources for support, creating new support systems, and simply connecting with other lesbian mothers. All mothers are welcome to attend, whether for one evening or the entire series.

calling all gay health groups

NEW YORK, NY — The National Gay Health Coalition is issuing a call for listings to be included in the second edition of *The National Gay Health Directory*. This directory describes services offered by individual gay health professionals, clinics, walk-in centers, counseling and referral agencies, AA meetings for gay people, help lines, etc., throughout the United States and Canada.

Each listing is free; to be included, all a group or an individual has to do is to send the name, address, and phone number of the facility or service, as well as a description of services offered, fees charged, days and hours available, an indication of whether an appointment is necessary and any other pertinent information to Jeanne Brossart, 80 S. Elliott Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217 as soon as possible.

The second edition of *The National Gay Health Directory* will be distributed free to each of the anticipated 1500 participants at the third annual National Gay Health Conference to be held in San Francisco, June 19-22, 1980. Copies remaining after the conference will be sold in the United States and Canada at a nominal charge to benefit the National Gay Health Coalition.

finally, women for union council

WASHINGTON, DC — Women and minorities will fill the next two vacant seats on the AFL-CIO Executive Council, according to a recent announcement by AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland. Kirkland also said it might be possible to expand the thirty-five member Council at the organization's 1981 convention. No woman has ever served on the Executive Council. About seven million women are members of the AFL-CIO or associations.

happy anniversary, tmi

BOSTON, MA — Boston Mobilization for Survival will be sponsoring an anti-nuclear rally on the anniversary of the Three Mile Island nuclear accident on Saturday, March 29 at 12 noon at the Boston Common. Speakers will include Dr. Helen Caldicott, pediatrician at Children's Hospital and founder of Physicians for Social Responsibility; Dr. Michio Kaku, nuclear physicist at City University of New York; Mel King, state representative; and Sidney Lens, author and labor leader. Musicians at the rally will include Fred Small, Marcia Taylor, the New Women's Chorus and other "nationally known" singers.

lesbian/gay feminist socialists to meet

MIDDLEFIELD, CT — The Powder Ridge Conference, a conference of multi-national lesbian and gay male feminist socialists from the Northeast, will take place over Memorial Day Weekend (Friday, May 23 to Monday, May 26, 1980) in Middlefield, CT.

The three major topics on the agenda will be "Racism," "Strategies on Fighting the Right," and "What It Means to be a Feminist Socialist." There will also be a theory section dealing with such topics as class analysis of lesbian and gay male oppression, combatting homophobia on the left, and Marxist theory. There will be a number of small workshops to promote sharing and exchange of ideas and strategies.

The conference is being planned by the Network of Lesbian and Gay Male Socialist Feminists, formed at a meeting after the October March on Washington.

Food, accommodations, childcare, and transportation from the New Haven train station will be provided, and the facilities are accessible by wheelchair.

Organizers urge people to register by May 1. For registration information contact: Powder Ridge Conference, P.O. Box 512, Village Station, N.Y.C., NY 10014 or call Laurie Morton at (212) 929-0210. In Philadelphia, contact Marc Killinger at (215) 726-5113. In Washington, DC contact Jean Catellani at (301) 588-8589. In Baltimore contact Joe Stewart at (301) 243-4418.

People are needed in the Boston area to help publicize the conference. If anyone in the Boston area is interested in doing outreach for the conference, or in registering, please contact either the New York organizers or Nancy Wechsler at *GCN* (617) 426-4469.

more gays reporting crimes

BOSTON, MA — Because of improved responses by police here, lesbians and gay men are more willing to report assaults and robberies, Mayor Kevin White's liaison with the gay community says.

Robin MacCormack told listeners to WEEI radio's "Bay State Forum" that "We think at this point that the problem is being addressed a whole lot better than it was, say, a year or two ago."

MacCormack said that although the problem of attacks on gay people continues, "arrests have been made and successfully prosecuted in court."

The improved police attitude toward crimes against gays results from a massive campaign to educate officers, MacCormack said. And, he said, the work has begun to pay off.

"Some time ago, gay people would be assaulted and would not report it," he said. "Now it's being done, and they have a little more confidence in the police department, seeing the response that they've been getting."

bring us your can

TUCSON, AZ — A billboard portraying a woman in short shorts bent down on her knees and elbows below the words "Bring us your can" has stirred a controversy in this city between feminists and Re-Cy-Co, a recycling firm. According to the *Washington Star* the Tucson Women's Commission and the National Organization for Women (NOW) want the sign taken down. Explaining objections to the billboard, the *Star* quotes NOW member Janet Hulnick: "I don't see the correlation between the human body and recycling things. It's just degrading to people." I.M. Molever, President of Re-Cy-Co, in defense of his company, is quoted as saying: "It's a play on words. It's a pun, and it's delivering a message to people to go out and recycle."



Bob Kunst (left) and Alan Rockway during the initial campaign against Anita Bryant.

Kunst Picketing *For* Anita?

LAKELAND, FL — Longtime Anita Bryant foe Bob Kunst, a Miami gay activist, is once again picketing the Florida Citrus Commission, for whom Bryant promotes orange juice. But Kunst isn't picketing to protest the commission's employment of Bryant; he's picketing to protest her possible termination by the group.

Major fruit processors, including Kraft and Minute Maid, have been lobbying the commission for repeal of the rule requiring that the word "Florida" appear on all citrus fruits, as well as cans or bottles of juice produced in the state; they say that the gay-sponsored boycott of Florida citrus pro-

ducts, protesting Bryant's association with the commission, is damaging their business.

Now citrus industry officials indicate that Bryant's contract may not be renewed in August — an indication which spurred Kunst to parade to commission headquarters, along with Dr. Alan Rockway, one of the co-leaders of Kunst's Congress United for Rights and Equality (CURE). They say that Bryant has a right to her "bigoted point of view."

"Every time she goes on television, she reminds people of gay rights, an exposure the gay rights movement can't afford to lose," Rockway told reporters.

Bob Green, Bryant's manager and husband, retorted: "This particular east of characters is out for publicity purposes — it is this group who started the blacklisting and boycotting of Anita's career in 1977."

At that time, Bryant, outspoken foe of gay rights, led a campaign to repeal an already-passed bill banning discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in Dade County, which includes the city of Miami. In a June 1977 referendum, county citizens voted to repeal the bill by a 2-1 margin.

An attempt by CURE to put another gay rights bill on the bal-

lot with Florida's March 11 presidential primary, meanwhile, failed recently when Dade County's Metro Commission rejected a large percentage of the 33,342 signatures collected by the gay group.

In order for the petition to be placed on the ballot, the valid signatures of four per cent of the county's registered voters were required. A purge of the voters' rolls begun three days after the petition was initiated eliminated many of the signatures; Kunst, Rockway, and Melodie Moorehead, also a CURE co-leader, charged that the purge was effected to destroy the petition. They said that the number of signatures required to validate the petition should have been based on the number of voters on the rolls after the purge; instead, that number was based on the number of voters on the rolls when the petition was initiated. Since the latter basis was used, CURE needed 28,843 valid signatures, but collected only about 26,000.

Kunst, Rockway, and Moorehead said that four per cent of the voters on the rolls after the purge would have totaled about 24,000, and that their petition should have been validated on that basis.

Windows Opens Nationwide; Protests Called "Successful"

By Nancy Wechsler

The United Artists movie *Windows*, which portrays a lesbian as a psychopathic killer, opened across the country in fewer than 150 theatres on Friday, March 7. Angry protesters picketed, leafletted, and chanted outside the theatres in many cities. In downtown Madison, Wisconsin the protesters were successful Saturday night in closing down *Windows* permanently. Sunday night in Madison was the scene of arrests at a suburban theatre.

Organizers in other cities reported success at convincing people not to attend the movie. Organizers around the country, many of whom had also protested against *Cruising*, described the demonstrations as positive, successful, community-building and educational. Some cities reported favorable straight media coverage, while others told GCN they were largely ignored by the straight media. What follows is a sample of the protest demonstrations that occurred around the opening of *Windows*.

Madison, WI

A broad based coalition of feminists, lesbians and gay groups in this city were successful in getting University Square Cinema, the local downtown theatre, to stop showing *Windows* the day after its March 7 opening.

According to Michael Bless, a member of the ad-hoc group

which organized the protests of the movies *Cruising* and *Windows*, "over fifty people turned out to a demonstration at the University Square Cinema Friday night with only twenty-four hours notice." The group sent in a small delegation to see the movie during the first showing, while the rest stayed outside and picketed, leafletted and "did a people-to-people educational campaign," according to Bless.

One hundred twenty-five people protested against the film on Saturday, March 8. They successfully prevented the 9:30 pm showing of the film when thirty-five protesters stormed into the theatre, while the rest stayed in the theatre lobby. They chanted, "No more victims, no more lies" and "Porn is the theory, rape is the practice," and demanded to see the manager.

The police were called in and helped to arrange a meeting between the protesters and the manager. Bless said they demanded that the manager stop showing the film and explained their objections to him.

On Sunday, March 9, *Windows* did not play at the downtown theatre. The manager had agreed to stop showing the film and had put a sign in the window saying that "the film would not be shown because management could not guarantee the safety of patrons and staff."

That same evening, forty people picketed at the Suburban East Town Cinema, where *Windows* was still playing. The same "rush the theatre" tactics were used from Saturday night, but demonstrators did not make it into the theatre. Police arrested seven people for disorderly conduct. Two of

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Pol Hits LA Leather Bar Raid

Compiled by John Kyper

LOS ANGELES — A police raid on a popular Hollywood leather bar has sparked an outcry in the organized gay community here. Councilmember Peggy Stevenson, who represents the Hollywood area, has called for a special investigation of police activities by the Los Angeles City Council's Police, Fire, and Safety Committee, which she chairs.

Griff's Bar, located on Melrose Avenue, was raided shortly after midnight on the morning of Sunday, March 2. Fifteen officers from the Hollywood division, including several members of the vice squad, entered the bar and arrested seven of the patrons. Six were charged under section 647A of the California Penal Code, solicitation of a lewd act. One other, who had protested the police action, was detained and then arrested after a computer check re-

vealed unpaid traffic tickets.

Earlier in the evening, a patron had been ejected due to his drunkenness and belligerence; according to people present in the bar, he told the management, "I'll fix you for what you did to me," as he was being forced to leave. Shortly afterward, police received an anonymous call complaining of anal copulation among the patrons. There was reportedly no sexual activity going on in the bar.

Police arrived within twenty minutes. At least eight police cars responded to the call. At about 12:30 a.m., the lights in the bar went on, and it was announced that the vice squad was there. Plainclothes and uniformed officers circulated through the crowded bar, singling out people and arresting them. The arrests were completed at 1:30. There was little resistance from patrons.

One of those arrested described the experience as "degrading." He was handcuffed tightly behind his back, dislocating his shoulder and causing his wrists to swell. When they arrived at Hollywood station, those arrested had to face a crowd of jeering officers, who made obscene taunts. He reported that some of them made references to the movie *Cruising*, a recently-released film set in New York's leather bars which has drawn wide protests from the gay community.

All of those arrested were bailed out or were released on their own recognizance, although some were not released until Sunday afternoon.

No charges will be filed against the men who were arrested. Curiously, arrest reports were not embellished with lurid descriptions of what acts the accused may or may not have committed, reportedly a common vice squad practice in Los Angeles. Griff's co-owner Wes Kuney, described them instead as looking "scrupulously honest" in their description of the men's activities: kissing, hugging, and fondling. None of these are prosecutable offenses.

The raid was led by Lieut. George Tawes, officer in charge of the Hollywood vice squad. Tawes had recently been appointed to that position, and Kuney suspected he was unused to

common police procedure in reporting such arrests: "He didn't lie," Kuney said.

The decision not to prosecute reflects long-standing differences between the Los Angeles police department and city attorney Bert Pines. Their aid violated guidelines established by the city attorney to guide police and prosecutors in handling lewd conduct cases. A spokesperson for Pines contended that the California courts' recent *Pryor* decision (see GCN Vol. 7, No. 10) overturning the conviction of a Los Angeles man, had vindicated the guidelines. The arrests at Griff's were constitutional violations, he said.

The raid was the latest in a series of incidents in which police were deployed to gay bars in large numbers. Councilmember Stevenson charged that an inordinate number of officers were being dispatched to gay bars despite "the most severe shortage of police officers in many years," and growing criticism of poor police response to serious crimes. The 1979 Statistical Abstract of Reported Crimes in Los Angeles reported 14,000 burglaries in the heavily gay Hollywood, East Hollywood, and Hollywood Hills areas.

Pressure for the city council committee hearings came from the gay community and others, in the words of longtime gay activist Morris Kight, "with a proprietary interest in our welfare." The Police, Fire and Public Safety Committee will hold hearings on March 26.

The Los Angeles police department has traditionally been very hostile to the gay community, as exemplified by ex-Chief Ed Davis. Although there was little resistance to the raid at Griff's, there was a near-confrontation last December when police responded en masse to an Alcohol Board complaint against the Detour, another leather bar. Kight was worried about the possibility of an escalation of tension: "The police will continue with these malpractices until the point where the chemistry will be created to cause a riot, and people will be hurt, if not killed. It will be self-generating."

Mass. State Committee Reviews Rape Bill

By Lee Swislow

BOSTON, MA — Should the state compensate victims of rape for counseling, medical expenses and other costs they incur? Women from the Rape Action Project (RAP) and the Boston Wages for Housework Committee answered an empathetic yes during their testimony at a legislative hearing on March 4 at the State House.

At issue is S.1006, known as the Rape Staircasing Bill. One part of this bill creates different categories of rape, with correspondingly different possible sentences. The other part provides financial compensation for the expenses of rape victims.

The bill is currently being reviewed by the Judiciary Committee. It must also go to the Ways and Means Committee, which reports on all financial appropriations. It can then be voted on by the Senate, and passed on to the House if approved.

A similar bill was passed by the Senate last year after hearing testimony, but the House adjourned

without taking action. Supporters believe it has a good chance of passage this year.

Sandy Resnick of RAP and Wages for Housework felt last year's testimony had resulted in some improvements in the original bill. "They dropped the exclusion clause, which made women raped by their husbands, family members or someone with whom she was living ineligible for compensation. Since most rapes are committed by a man the woman knows, we feel it is very important that these women are able to obtain compensation."

"Right now the bill includes a \$100 deductible and will not pay for an abortion or cover the costs of a pregnancy resulting from rape," she continued. She hopes those provisions will be changed in the final bill.

Jacqueline Wisotsky testified for the Lesbian Caucus of RAP. "Lesbians get raped, too, and we need the compensation this bill provides," she said. "For too long women have borne the costs of rape. It is time that the state

takes responsibility for its negligence." But Wisotsky questioned the staircasing aspects of the bill, fearing that this might lead to a ranking of rape, with the state deciding whose rape is more serious.

"I believe passage of this bill will bring more convictions," Resnick stated. "Women are afraid of being on trial ourselves when we go to court. This is especially true for lesbians. With more convictions women will be more powerful and there will be less fear." She believes that going to court and obtaining convictions is essential in fighting rape.

The bill does not specify the gender of rape victims. However, Wisotsky said there was no testimony concerning male victims of rape.

The RAP/Wages for Housework statement was endorsed by 36 groups and individuals throughout the state, including GCN, Women's Community Health, WAVAW (Women Against Violence Against Women) and Women, Inc.

Gay Community News

THE GAY WEEKLY

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Community Voices

rape

Dear GCN,

I have not read Bronski's or Lorde's writings that are the concerns of Adrienne Rich's letter. But I am shock and appalled that Rich could use the term rape to describe what at worst is unfair quoting of another's work. This misuse is careless and stupid; it demeans the word and insults everyone who has undergone the trauma of real rape.

Laura Frisch
Newton, MA

loving ourselves

Dear Editor,

I am moved to write because of Adrienne Rich's extraordinary letter in your last issue. Extraordinary not because she disliked Bronski's pro S&M piece — which I thought was unexciting, but all right — but because she liked the Stoltenberg piece. I presume that Rich is against S&M. The joke is on her. Stoltenberg's essay was one of the most masochistic, self-effacing things that I have ever read. That is one thing, but what I find upsetting is that he uses feminism to hate himself.

Part and parcel of his self-loathing is the whimpering plea to women to help him (as though women don't have enough things to do already), show him what to do, tell him how to do it: "please mommy, please can I cut it off." (That may seem a bit harsh, but how else do you interpret his remark that his erection is "painful if bent.") My knowledge of this remark is not only from Bronski's quoting it — I have read Stoltenberg's "Refusing to be a Man" and find everything in his S&M piece present there tenfold.

I don't care much about S&M one way or another. But it is not in the interests of women to have men hate themselves, or to come snivelling up to us feeling bad, looking for a pat on the head for the "correct" political line. As the saying goes, "no one is free till we all are free:" freedom implies the ability to love one's self. Stoltenberg's cold-blooded, passionless exercise in self-hate does no one, including women, any good.

Yours,

Sondra Smith
Boston, MA

stoltenberg

Dear Editor,

John Stoltenberg's article in the Feb. 23, 1980 GCN is an excellent analysis of sadomasochism from a feminist perspective. Much that he says will be and should be challenged since none of us will grow much in our understanding of the sadomasochism phenomenon without keen insights like Stoltenberg's and without challenges to such insights.

I've been trying for some time to track down another article by Stoltenberg in which he exposes the gay male exploitation of lesbians in the gay movement. Would he let you send me his address? Or via GCN can you send him this simple message:

WHERE ARE YOU, JOHN STOLTENBERG?
(AND ARE YOU WILLING TO BE CLONED?)

Sincerely,

kennedy

Sally M. Gearhart
Willits, CA

Dear Persons:

As a parent proud of her gay son and one who participated in the National Gay Rights March in Washington, D.C. and in the rainy march and lobbying in Sacramento this year, I feel qualified to take issue with the full page ad for Senator Edward Kennedy in the GCN issue of March 1st.

Senator Kennedy's position on gay rights as given in the ad is out of character with his actions in the field of civil liberties. This throws into question his sincerity. Either the Senator has a compartmental mind or he sees the possible voting power of the gay community in the 1980 elections.

I would like to remind your readers that Senator Kennedy is the author of S-1722, which is probably the most extensive anti-civil liberty piece of legislation ever presented to Congress — limiting as it does the rights of peace activists, labor, press etc. Kennedy helped put together the new FBI charter which allows the FBI more freedom of action. Kennedy (on a trade-off with Senator Thurmond) allowed out of his Judicial Committee Bill S-114, which would put capital punishment back on the books. Through Bill S-1566 (last Congress) Kennedy has legalized the wire-tapping of non-citizens, even those without criminal activities.

David Hough in his letter in the GCN of March 8th urges support of Representative John Anderson by the gay community as an alternative to Kennedy. Rep. Anderson has a consistent record of voting for civil liberty legislation for the 20 years he has been in the House, and as a true civil libertarian he supports the inclusion of a gay rights plank in the Republican platform. There is no credibility gap between his actions and his promises. I am seriously considering changing my registration from Democrat to Republican in order to vote in the California Republican primary.

Sincerely,

Betty Rottger
Santa Monica, CA

hanging separately

Dear GCN,

One of America's finest poets once told me she no longer followed the work of Adrienne Rich because it had become "sloppy." I ignored the comment, assuming the real reason was Rich's transfer to lesbianism. But the comment comes back to me now that Rich, acting as henchperson for Leah Fritz and John Stoltenberg, and black sister's keeper to Audre Lorde, has accused Michael Bronski (because he quoted a Lorde essay in his own essay on gay male S&M) of rape. She is sloppy.

If Michael is guilty of rape for quoting, out of context or otherwise, then rape, as defined in this instance by Rich, has become rather academic. In kinder circles a writer might be pleased that another writer is familiar with the work of still another writer, especially when one of them is a white lesbian, one a black lesbian, and one a white gay male. I thought humble attempts at explication, with hope for communication, was what we writers were about. And that if our artistry were to become our "weapon" it would be aimed at the true enemy.

It is the stance of several literary (and many non-literary) gay males — as it is of almost all straight men — that the work of women, never mind gay women — is best left ignored. Robert Penn Warren and James Merrill received the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award in the same year Rich brought out *The Dream of a Common Language*, Denise Levertov published *Life in the Forest*, and Muriel Rukeyser presented us with her collected works! One could vent a fine amount of hostility in the direction of that sort of inattention.

Anyone who has read Michael Bronski's work carefully knows, or should by now, that he is one of the few male "feminists" to be trusted in his intent; that unlike Stoltenberg, his feminism does not hinge on hatred of male sexuality, and therefore of self. Self-hatred bears miserable writing: reified nonsense.

Adrienne Rich, a lesbian for so short a time, has proven herself to be one of the many reasons we — gay people, women and men — will hang separately. With christian/right wing forces growing more noticeably strong and obnoxious each time we sneak a peek at the christian TV show "700 Club" or read any newspaper not published by our own kind, it is regrettable that Rich wastes her considerable energy on a man who has cheerfully relinquished so many of the negative aspects of masculinity.

Though I would never again quote her words to anyone, Rich once wrote, with the beauty of language for which she is rightly known, that if the words of an oppressed group are suppressed the group stands, if at all, invisibly. I paraphrase quite loosely, not wishing to further offend her. The point is: she would deny Michael his voice while that voice was attempting to explain something of which she does not approve, something she does not want to see her sister's name in any way connected to; how absolutely manly of her!

Sincerely,

Walta Borawski
Cambridge, MA

from sheepdip

Dear GCN,

Regarding Gregg Howe's "The Perfect Man?" and the *In Touch* letter:

Dear Gregg Howe:

How dare you consider submitting material to *In Touch*? (I know, I know — you want to get paid!) Don't you realize, though, that if *In Touch* starts to publish your material, I won't be able to read it any more? I live in Sheepdip, Wyoming (otherwise known as Wilkes-Barre, PA), but there are some of us here — I among them — who do not intend to buy *In Touch* or *Blueboy* or *Mandate* or any magazine of a similar ilk.

And I would miss your articles. They add just the right touch to GCN, which sometimes seems almost oppressive with its seriousness. I can always count on a laugh from your humor and serious insight beneath your irony. And I always make sure my friends read your articles, too, although sometimes I can't wait and read your articles to them over the telephone.

Well, if you must publish in the slicks for the money, maybe GCN could reprint your articles. Even out here in Sheepdip, we love and appreciate you.

Cordially,

R.E. Pipher
Wilkes-Barre, PA

the perfect man

Dear Gregg Howe,

I just finished reading your piece on "The Perfect Man" and had to write to let you know how much I enjoy your articles. As much as I like your articles in general, this one surpassed them all. It was a true gem. The only things better than your articles are the occasional angry letters from readers who misunderstand them. Don't lose your sense of humor.

All Gay Wishes,

Bob Schwartz
Charlottesville, VA

what better time

Dear Editor:

This is in response to Leah Fritz' letter printed in the February 23, 1980 issue of GCN.

As a gay man, I agree that women are oppressed. They have been, among other things, battered, bartered, burned, neglected and raped. Their assailants, primarily the male of the species, have been responsible for placing them in the state of second-class citizenry.

It is my opinion that in order for this deplorable situation to be rectified, many things need to be done and much of it by women themselves. Much, too, must be done by men, including the exploration of themselves and their own sexuality — and I mean their homosexuality — if women are ever to be truly free. Of course, men should be educated about women, by women. But, a man can only learn about being a man (and I don't mean a "macho" man, but a loving man) from other men and this should start when he is a boy. What better time to begin learning about humanity than when one is young? While a newcomer, at anything, even life, will learn from another newcomer, or newcomers, persons with more experience can still be of great value.

A sensitive adult can frequently help a younger person cope with a difficult sometimes frightening world and in return the adult will learn about him/herself from the younger person. As we are sexual beings, it would seem to follow logically that sexuality should be the first area explored and as a fourteen year-old member of Gay Youth/New York said recently at a forum held on man/boy love, "People are born ready for sex."

Sex can take many forms and it is all good. Rape, on the other hand, is a non-consensual act of violence and should not be confused with sexuality. And, before the words 'coercion' and 'seduction' are bandied about too freely, I feel that some intelligent dialogue should occur in order to sort out what these things are, and are not. The sexual experience is a learning/growing one that lasts one's whole life through and from which people do not need "protection."

I, too, look to a stronger alliance between the women's liberation movement and the gay liberation movement. But, I must point out that one is not an adjunct of the other. Both movements must maintain their own goals while being supportive of each other. We are close relations, though. Jill Johnston is correct in that women are lesbians and men are homosexual, and if they aren't, they just don't know it yet. The suppression of homosexuality has been an enormous tool of the patriarchy to keep everyone in line and an important task of the gay movement is to educate "heterosexual" women on the virtue and value of homosex. Attacks on man/boy lovers by some feminists and the current anti-pornography campaign within the women's movement are middle-class reactions.

Fritz' letter is utterly offensive. Who is this straight person, informing gay people that she is reluctant to support the "male homosexual civil rights movement" unless we cease condoning "rape"?! The gay liberation movement does *not* condone rape! I will forego the temptation of tearing into her letter on a point-by-point basis and say only that, among other things, it was ageist, giving young people no credit for intelligence and maligning older people who love them.

As a man reared, controlled and influenced by women all through my younger years, I can honestly say I learned nothing about being a boy, much less a man, from my mother.

Yours for gay liberation and socialism,
Mark W. Bentley
New York City, N.Y.

relief

Dear GCN,

I am moved to express my gratitude for Gregg Howe's keen-edged, insightful humor. The gay movement, like all social change movements, tends to take itself too seriously, sense of humor giving away to strident polemics. (See, for example, letters to GCN.) Howe's pieces provide welcome relief from the overwhelming volume of rhetoric.

Sincerely,

Scott Edwards
New York, NY

Promotions Manager

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DESIGN DIRECTOR

Applications are now being accepted for the position of Design Director. Background in graphic arts necessary. April 1 opening. Direct inquiries and resumes to Richard Burns, GCN, 22 Bromfield Street, Boston, MA 02108.

Community Voices

economic boycott

To Whom It May Concern,

I support the boycott of *Cruising*. I will not pay Sack Theatres to see it. However, I am interested in viewing the film in order to see if the film itself is exploitative of gays and of violence, or if the promotional campaign distorted the message. I am hoping an actor with the record of past films which Al Pacino has would make such a film only if he felt it would increase the level of understanding in middle America about the special dangers of gay life.

Therefore, I would like to suggest a gay activist group sponsor a benefit showing of the film. I would pay to see it if the money would further a good cause. Since the Sack Theatres have proclaimed so vehemently their dedication to the First Amendment and their hope that all will see the film and make their own judgement, I assume they would be more than willing to donate use of one of their theatres and a copy of the film for a benefit at a non-prime time — say Sunday at 11 am. A projectionist and other staff could be paid for from the proceeds. Let Sack put their facilities where their rhetoric is.

Also, a benefit showing would emphasize the idea of an *economic* boycott of an exploitative film, rather than the issue of suppression of First Amendment rights. Perhaps the proceeds could be used for developing specialized assistance for gay victims of violent personal attacks (similar to the Rape Teams now being instituted in many police departments).

Susan R. Garber
Dorchester, MA

an old-fashioned liberal

Dear *GCN*,

As a recently uncloseted gay, an old-fashioned political liberal, and a dedicated supporter of humanitarian causes, I find the current gay media crusade against the film *Cruising* eminently disturbing.

Though no film critic, it must be obvious to any audience (gay or straight, drag queen or doped-up punk queer basher) that this movie is a brutal, and sometimes effective, period piece. It is a film which focuses on a small segment of the *visible* gay community in a microcosm of American life. Gay or straight, New York is no more "America" than is sado-masochism "homosexuality." Both are parts of a whole; both are but glimpses of a larger truth.

I would not pretend to know the motivation behind the production or commercial packaging of this film, and I remain skeptical about the cosmic significance of the character portrayed by Al Pacino or the philosophy of sado-masochism evinced in the Mineshaft type settings.

I do know that the urgent rantings of most of the gay print media against the film smack of intolerance, and, in the end, are self-defeating. Orthodoxy, in all its political, religious, or social manifestations is to me repugnant and basically anti-libertarian. First Amendment rights aside, the cries for "unity" among gays against *Cruising* are basically totalitarian — destroy what you don't like; close ranks against what you cannot accept.

One need not argue the artistic merits (or lack thereof) in *Cruising*. Let the film rise or sink on its own. But to pretend that gay-dom in the U.S. is endangered by this film is ludicrous. Homosexuals are no more potential victims because of *Cruising* than are dwarves made objects of ridicule because of *Snow White*. To picket this film is misspent energy. The cause of gay rights, the struggle for freedom of expression, self-identity and self-fulfillment in the arts, in business, and in the broader spectrum of American life, is a noble one. There are myriad opportunities for gay crusaders, young and old, to foster the short- and long-term well-being of their brothers and sisters in meaningful ways. *Cruising* is not one of them.

Sincerely,

Will Hutchinson
Boston, MA

looking back

Shalom,

Early 1930s: Jews are refused entrance to Germany. Consensual gatherings of Jews are busted up by German police. Jews are murdered, but their assailants receive no punishment.

Early 1980s: Gays are refused entrance to the U.S. 100 Gay men are arrested for consensual private activity in Minneapolis. Gays are being murdered, and quite often their assailants either go free or receive a slap on the wrist.

When the shit hits the fan (i.e. American economy worsens), the rich people will need scapegoats. Guess who? That's why we need to build a broad movement of decent human beings to resist attacks on all our lives.

Praises to the Dutch government. Holland was one of the few countries that attempted to help Jews, and now they are the only country willing to criticize the U.S. for its clearly fascist ruling on gay tourists.

Sincerely,

Chava Field
Berkeley, CA

with regard to pickets

To the Editor:

A letter appeared in your paper (3/1/80) from a John B. Fitzgerald, Jr., of East Boston which I found misdirected and personally offensive. *Community Voices* being the forum that it is, I'd like to take a few lines to elaborate.

Mr. Fitzgerald wrote with regard to the picketing of *Cruising* — "I very much resent anyone deciding my tastes for me whether or not I come to the same conclusion. It is my right to find out for myself." He continues "I have never been, nor ever will be, anyone's passive victim: least of all, the passive victim of the whims of a bunch of malcontent paranoid gays who can't survive socially beyond their narrow 'woe is me' clique." He concludes "the rest of us go about the business of living and solving real issues."

If Mr. Fitzgerald thinks he is such an unconstrained free agent in this society, may I point out that he will be \$4.00 poorer after he sees *Cruising* and I wonder how much satisfaction he will feel after witnessing the murder and dismemberment of gay men.

Mr. Fitzgerald insists that he is not a victim, but consider the following:

All gay men and lesbians are victims in this society in that no protection from discrimination exists on either a federal level or within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

No positive portrayals of gays exist in the media — we are only victims or villains.

Openly gay individuals are a decided minority in the majority of professions in American society — try coming out publicly as a schoolteacher.

And should Mr. Fitzgerald invite an overseas guest (who happens to be gay) for a visit, make sure the visitor "passes" as straight at the border, or he won't get into the United States.

Mr. Fitzgerald, all lesbians and gay men are quite the victims of American society. Don't criticize the men and women who marched on February 15, rather, consider the message which we were out there to deliver: that Hollywood as a major media force must stop perpetrating the negative portrayal of lesbians and gays. The society in which we live is hostile and homophobic enough as is, without popular culture serving to legitimize that homophobia.

I would be interested in knowing what you consider the real issues, Mr. Fitzgerald.

And lastly, I'll be in the streets to picket the opening of *Windows* in Boston. Before you insult me again with epithets such as "malcontent paranoid gays," open your eyes and see where the real enemies of the gay community are. For your next letter, may I suggest writing to your state representative in support of the passage of gay rights legislation in 1980, as opposed to more petty name-calling in *GCN*.

Truly yours,

Jonathan H. Malone
Boston, MA

looking for community

Dear *GCN*,

I am not going to see *Cruising*, nor *Windows*. But then again I live in New York City where gay people demonstrated the filming of *Cruising* and the opening of both *Cruising* and *Windows*. I thought it was wrong for gay people to see these movies, not just because they are poorly made, show only one side, etc., but because it adds to our self-oppression. Let's look at that.

A friend of mine from the Southwest was up recently for a visit. He mentioned he had gone to see *Cruising*. He also said that since there was so little gay community, spirit, and identity where he came from, the movie, despite its content, gave him a sense of unity with the larger gay community. His comment reminded me of my own need to search out "my people" in the past. In my closet years I remember seeing *Midnight Cowboy* and feeling the same thing during the brief gay balcony scene.

So, I am not going to see *Cruising*, nor *Windows*. But I am aware that I live in New York City, where one can openly identify with other gay people without having to see a movie such as *Cruising* to get one's feeling of community.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Miller
New York City, NY

james baldwin

Dear Friends,

Brava for Andrea Loewenstein for her wonderful piece on "James Baldwin and His Critics" (*GCN*, 2/9/80). It's one of the finest pieces I've read on literature in a long time. Her ability to be incisive about both political and literary issues at the same time is a real strength which I hope *GCN* will draw on more frequently. One small quibble is that she gives *The New York Review of Books* too much credit; they are indeed hostile to much gay material, even if not absolutely so. But that's minor. I learned a lot and was quite moved by her article. Thank you.

Bert Hanson
Institute for the History and Philosophy
of Science and Technology
University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada

character development

Dear *GCN*:

In the "Community Voices" column of the *GCN* dated March 8, Bruce Brockway wrote of the movie *Cruising*: "Never have gay men been presented as being more manly, fearless and desirable." Brockway goes on to assert that every gay person in the film is presented with a healthy attitude and that every gay victim is given a complex character development.

I saw *Cruising* myself (I do agree with Brockway that individual gay persons should decide for themselves whether or not to see the film, and I agree with him that a lot of the gay criticism of it has missed the mark — it is just a very bad film) and am amazed that two gay men could have such opposite reactions to the film. To say that rivet-studded leather drag, phony military and police uniforms, pseudo-Nazi regalia and the like make one "manly and desirable" reveals a real sexist attitude, rooted, I suspect, in insecurity about sexuality and masculinity. This gay man found the men in *Cruising* to be very unattractive and undesirable, and certainly not "manly" in any healthy, admirable way. The probable killer may have seemed to be "physically healthy," but he was emotionally disturbed, under the pall of his dead father to whom he wrote frequent morose letters.

One of my severest criticisms of this bad film is that there is very little character development — we don't know who these men are, where they come from (oh yes, we learn through the shallow dialogue that one of the victims was a Columbia professor), how they relate to other people or to each other, or what motivates them. Thus, I am baffled by Brockway's statement that "every gay victim is given a complex character development . . . calculated to evoke admiration . . ." Did we see the same film?

Sincerely,

Allan Stifflear
Cambridge, MA

thrilled

Dear *GCN*,

After hearing so much, too much, about *Cruising*, I finally saw it. I asked my brother, his girlfriend, and a straight friend of ours if they'd like to see it. They were, of course, a bit surprised by the film, but hardly shocked. It wasn't a bad movie, if nothing else it was educationally revealing. I was really happy to see Brockway's letter in the March 8th issue of *GCN*. I haven't seen very much, if any, sensible writing about *Cruising* and it was all summed up pretty well by Brockway.

In that same issue a Mr. Scott Tucker cries about wanting to see the "truth about our lives" — I must assume he fails to realize that there is an Anvil and a Mineshaft. He also whimpers about the success of TransAmerica — I can just imagine the cute movies he would head up with little rhymes like the chants quoted by him in his letter — real sweet and very dull. Maybe these cry-babies can't understand the excitement of the West Village — too bad.

The bar scenes are quite realistic except for the somewhat cool attitudes of the men inside. But I was thrilled that people were seeing another aspect of gay life. We saw *men* in the movie and I was proud to be there with three straight people. They thought some of the scenes were a little bizarre, but the gay world offers more readily available choices in the realm of sexual entertainment/participation and I take full advantage of it and thoroughly enjoy myself. The movie made another good point in that it showed that these leather men lead "regular" daily lives. We gay men should be very happy that we can go out and live a fantasy if we choose to — being a subculture we can take advantage of our "unacceptance."

It's funny how the gay men I've spoken to, who usually haven't even seen the movie and who protest it, are the ones who won't even go into a bath or the tame bars of the dock strip in NYC, much less a leather bar. Remember . . . to each his own. Live and let live. *Cruising* showed the other end of the spectrum. People equate gay men with limp-wristed, poodle-walking, bitchy queens — now they see the leather-clad muscle-men. If the majority of the straight public can't figure out that most gay men fall somewhere in between — then fuck 'em — they're too ignorant to concern ourselves with. But I have a little more faith in human nature and feel that most people realize that the movie's opening statement wasn't put there as a joke.

As far as the violent scenes go, most murder is violent and the movie makers chose to be very graphic — big deal — we've all seen similar stuff on TV.

Grow up you sissies and don't make such a big deal over some Hollywood film — go out and have a good time instead of prancing around and chanting cute little rhymes in front of the local theatre.

Happy Cruising,

Rob Mihaley
Stratford, CT

on greed

Dear *GCN*,

The thing that separates man from animal is not that he can dream of the stars (even though that's a lovely thought, and has been the subject of many great works of science fiction). No, what does it is that we have one thing that animals don't. Greed.

I can think of fewer motivations as strong in the history of our species. Churchmen would no doubt claim love of God as a stronger motivating force. Mother love is also a strong force, as is survival, and so is curiosity. . . . But for down home getting it on, nothing compares with good old earthy greed.

Which, in a rather roustabout fashion brings me to the point of this, my first letter to the *GCN*.

For the past month or so, I have been following with some degree of bemused interest the debate over the two movies *Windows* and *Cruising*. Others before me have called the films an open attack on the gay community. They have been referred to as senseless, demoralizing, damaging to the gay image, etc. All of this may very well be true (though I think I'd at least like to see a film before rendering an opinion on it). But one should bear in mind that the primary reason either of these films was made was to make a buck.

There's something uproariously funny, then, about the planned boycott on the Boston opening of *Cruising*, and the incredible amount of press, both in the pages of the *GCN* and elsewhere, the whole issue has been getting.

Isn't the gay community of Boston aware of how many thousands of dollars in advertising we have saved the producers of these films? *Cruising* is due to open in two weeks (as this is being written) and sports a "big-name" cast, and yet the only notices of its imminent arrival that I've seen have been from groups opposed to the film.

Now stop and think for just a moment. Don't you see what's happening? Don't you think that this may have all been planned? Don't you see that our actions have virtually assured a smash box-office run for both movies? How can we be so blind? How can we be so stupid?

We have been had. We have fallen prey to the oldest shuck in the book. And it was all so very easy. Without our sensitivity to our own condition, *Cruising* could never have happened.

In case you haven't realized it yet, this is a war we're fighting. A war against real hatred, real bigotry, and very real repression. So what the hell are we doing involving ourselves with all this mickeymouse crap that stands in the way of getting it done?

So *Cruising* and *Windows* are slaps in the face of the gay community. Big deal. There have been worse things done to us, and we've managed to survive. There are enough real killers out there who are looking for us night and day, waiting for us to open our mouths when we call them by their real names. Just waiting to haul us in front of all the Garrett Byrnes in the world, waiting to use our blood and our bones to make their political hay.

I should think we had learned our lesson with Anita Bryant and her vitriolic form of poison. We are responsible for turning her into a media star. If we had left the woman alone, her ranting and raving would have faded away like a bad dream.

There are some very basic core problems here, and I think you know exactly what I'm talking about. There's really no need for me to sermonize. There are creeps and pigs who are using the gay liberation movement and the fears on both sides of the scene (and don't forget that many straight people are very afraid of us and the threat we pose to them. They have every right to be. We are a threat to them.) for their own ends. They are the spoilers. And they aren't merely making a buck or getting a little juice for it (though that's bad enough when you're asking people to risk their heads for ethics and principles and morality), they are risking other troops' lives.

And the worst part of the whole situation is that those of us who could band together and do something about it aren't. Please don't get me wrong on this. I am not attacking the *GCN*, or any of the great work this paper has done. I am merely calling for an end to the pettiness that has lately been running rampant in the gay political community. Let *Cruising* and *Windows* open in Boston. Boycott the films if you really feel you must, but do it quietly. Leave your placards and chants at home. In some issues a silent majority gets more done than a vocal minority.

Geoffrey A. Stevens
Boston, MA

***GCN* welcomes letters to "Community Voices". If at all possible, your letters should be typed and double-spaced. Anonymous letters will not be published, but names will be withheld upon request. Letters should be addressed to Community Voices, *GCN*, 22 Bromfield St., Boston, MA 02108.**

Carter Record

Continued from page 1

human rights policy?"

Strauss implied that since the inception of the Carter presidency there has been an "open door" for the airing of concerns by the national lesbian/gay community. To that, Endean responded: "The President has never met with gay community leaders directly, while he has sat down with Rev. Jerry Falwell of the Moral Majority." . . . Frankly, Carter's 'open door' policy makes me uncomfortable."

Strauss also stated in his letter that "the Bureau of Prisons will soon permit the receipt of non-pornographic gay literature in federal correctional institutions."

Margot Karle, of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., attorney for the plaintiffs in *National Gay Task Force, et al v. Norman A. Carlson*, questioned Strauss' use of the term "soon." The lawsuit, brought by NGTF, *GCN*, *Off Our Backs*, and others, challenges Carlson in his official capacity as director of the Bureau of Prisons because of the refusal by federal prisons to admit lesbian and gay publications.

"The Bureau of Prisons has indicated for the first time a willingness to admit gay publications," Karle told *GCN*. She added, however, that "serious problems" exist over the definition of pornography. "Their [the Bureau of Prisons'] definition of 'pornographic' is not our definition," she said, adding that "it is not the Constitutional definition" either.

"There is an enormous amount of work to be done," she said, adding, "I think it will be months before we approach a resolution of this issue."

With regard to the absense of any response to the question about a lesbian/gay rights plank in the campaign platform of the Democratic Party, Mary Spottswood Pou of the National Convention Project proffered a possible explanation.

"I was partially disappointed

that Strauss failed to mention anything about a gay rights plank in the Party platform," she said. "I am not surprised, though, that Carter didn't respond to that because of the Southern primaries [in South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, and Georgia] that were scheduled to take place right after that letter was sent." She noted, however, that NGTF had requested a response to its letter by last Dec. 15. If Strauss waited three months to answer the questions, why did he not simply wait another two weeks, until after the Southern primaries were over, before responding? Would Carter's response to this question have been different if Strauss had held off until after these primaries? Pou doubted it, telling *GCN* that "they just don't want to make any waves for the campaign" by making strong statements in this area.

"I think that by the time the California primary comes around [June 3]," Pou added, "if Kennedy is still in the race, Carter will come out with a statement of some sort on the plank." She commented that Carter is "not going to oppose a gay rights plank, but the Carter/Mondale campaign has not taken a stand on any platform issues" to date.

About the National Convention Project's goal of securing the inclusion of a gay rights plank in the platforms of both the Republican and Democratic Parties, Pou said, "I'm very optimistic. I think we've gotten an early enough start in this presidential campaign and enough publicity" to be successful. She added that the straight media has rated the issue of lesbian/gay rights as one of the top 20 issues in this campaign.

In a further response to Carter's position and his track record on the issues, Ann Maguire of the Massachusetts Gay Political Caucus had this to say: "James Carter has had four years to pass the ERA [Equal Rights Amendment]. He has not done so. He's had four

years to issue an executive order [banning federal discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation]. He has not done so. He's had four years to clear up this immigration hassle. He has not done so. James Carter has had the opportunity, he's had the power, and he's had the influence, but he's done nothing."

NGTF also expressed a sense of dismay that no executive order has been forthcoming from the Carter White House. "We are disappointed that the Administration has yet to see the need for an executive order to prohibit discrimination in government programs, services, and federal employment exempt from the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act," Brydon and Valeska commented. "There is a clear need to rectify institutionalized prejudice in government. We specifically dispute the President's contention that the exemptions in the Civil Service Reform Act [such as those for the Peace Corps and the Agency for International Development] preclude an effective remedy by executive order."

Making an appeal for the lesbian/gay vote for Jimmy Carter, Strauss concluded his letter to NGTF by saying: ". . . the President's record shows that he has taken steps, in his first three years in office, to address most of the public issues articulated historically within the gay community. I believe this record warrants your continued support."

Brydon and Valeska, noting that NGTF has reservations about many of the specifics of the Carter response, commented, "We believe that it is in the interests of lesbians and gay men and our nongay supporters everywhere to carefully evaluate the positions of all candidates and make a decision on the basis of both performance and rhetoric."

Restroom Raid

Continued from page 1

at the police station with bail money, they were informed by the bondsman there was only one man who was short the \$10. "But, you know," said the bondsman, "he's black." According to one of the arrested, the general consensus of the defendants was that they were pleased to see the *Fag Raggers* at the police station. After all 11 were released, one police officer was heard to shout: "That looks like it for this year." It was not clear to what he referred.

State Rep. Barney Frank, who represents the district in which the Library is located, said police entrapment was "outrageous." Frank said: "In the neighborhood I represent, we are underpoliced. There are people afraid to go out on the streets. The notion that they'd divert police from protection of the public to sending these cops in there to solicit is outrageous." Frank has written to the police commissioner protesting these policy priorities.

Robin MacCormack, special assistant to Mayor Kevin White and liaison to the gay community, commented on the agreement that had been reached proscribing such police operations. "It's disturbing to learn that the policy that our community, in good faith, agreed to in 1978, might not be worth

much because nobody in the police department seems to know anything about it."

Shannon Austin, of the *Fag Rag* staff, who was with the arrested men at the police station and in court the following day, said: "The city had an agreement with the gay community not to engage in this kind of entrapment. But this demonstrates that we cannot trust them. We have to take immediate action." Another gay activist, after making bail for one of the arrested, said: "The police in this city are completely out of control."

As a result of these renewed entrapments, GLAD has called an emergency meeting to decide on an appropriate response. It has been suggested that the 10 men who appeared for arraignment file for a joint trial. Out of the 103 arrested in March 1978, there was only one conviction, which was reversed on appeal. Most of the cases were continued without a finding for a year and then thrown out. But about 25% of the open and gross lewdness cases did come to trial, with Terrizzi as the police witness. In all of these cases, the court did not accept the police account of the events and found those charged not guilty.

ERA March

Continued from page 1

Enochs anticipates no problems attracting participants to the march. "We've been calling out into the field, and people are really excited about it. One thing that we have found, all over the years, with the Equal Rights Amendment is that people do support it, and when called on to show that kind of support, whether it's through a march or whether it's through constituency pressure, they always come through." She

said that march organizers expect between 50,000 and 100,000 participants for the Chicago march.

No speakers have been confirmed for the post-march rally as yet. Will lesbians be represented among the speakers? "Certainly," Enoch's said.

The amendment, which has been ratified by 35 states, must be ratified by three more before the deadline of June 30, 1982, if it is to succeed.

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Windows Opening Met With Protests

Continued from Page 3

those arrested were also charged with obstructing an officer. The seven arrested will appear in court for a hearing on March 24 at 9 am.

Monday evening, forty people picketed for one hour at the home of the manager of the suburban cinema, and then walked the four blocks to the theatre, where they continued picketing. They carried signs reading "Don't pay cash for rape" and "no cash for this trash."

Sixty-five picketers went back to the theatre on Tuesday evening. Twenty-five of them sat down in front of the entrance to the theatre and locked arms, "leaving a four foot opening for people to pass through," according to Bless.

The police, who were already on the scene, immediately informed the demonstrators that if they did not move they would be arrested for blocking the theatre entrance. The demonstrators refused to move; fifteen women and five men were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. Bless told *GCN* that "the demonstrators just sat there and passively resisted arrest. Most had to be dragged to the police van." Those arrested were released on personal recognizance later that night.

In a statement to the press Wednesday morning, Barbara Lightner, spokeswoman for the demonstrators, said that "a clear violation of our constitutional right of freedom of speech and right to peaceably assemble was made by the police because we were not blocking the theatre. People could come and go at all times."

A mass meeting was scheduled for that evening to announce plans to hold another demonstration at the theatre that same night. *Milwaukee, WI*

Over one hundred people participated in a demonstration on March 7 at the Esquire Theatre in downtown Milwaukee to protest the opening of *Windows*. A smaller informational picket was

also held on Saturday night. The demonstration was organized by the Coalition to Oppose Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men, the same group that organized the anti-*Cruising* demonstrations in February.

Chanting "Don't pay cash for bigoted trash" and "Stop rape, stop *Windows*," demonstrators handed out leaflets to those who had come to see the film. According to Judy Greenspan, a spokeswoman for the coalition, "Many people decided not to go see the movie after talking with us." Greenspan said the leaflet the coalition passed out "drew connections between United Artists' release of anti-gay films *Cruising* and *Windows* with its racist film *Deathwish* about a white man who goes around killing black people." She said the leaflet concentrated on drawing connections between the black civil rights struggle and the struggle of lesbians and gay men for civil rights.

She said the straight press, which had covered the *Cruising* demonstrations last month as well as an earlier "Take Back The Night" march, ignored the *Windows* demonstration. "The media," Greenspan said, "in ignoring this protest, showed their lack of willingness to take lesbian issues seriously."

Philadelphia, PA

A multi-racial group of one hundred men and women held what one demonstrator called a lively, spirited demonstration in front of the Budco-owned Midtown Theatre in center city Philadelphia.

According to Rita Addressa, an organizer of the demonstration from the Lesbian and Gay Task Force, "there was very low attendance at the movie, and protesters were successful at turning away one-half the audience." Two thousand signatures were collected on a petition "calling on United Artists to stop producing films such as *Windows/Cruising* and produce films with positive,

realistic portrayals of lesbians and gay men."

San Francisco, CA

The Coalition Against *Windows* held a peaceful neighborhood picket at the home of James R. Harvey, president of Transamerica Corporation. United Artists is a Transamerica subsidiary. The demonstration was to protest the "opening of the anti-woman, anti-gay film *Windows* nationwide," according to a coalition press statement.

Thirty men and women picketed Harvey's home from 5:30 to 7:30 on Friday, March 7, singing and chanting "Ain't gonna let Transamerica turn us around, we're gonna close that movie down." Constantine Berlandt, from the Coalition, told *GCN* that "the demonstrators were loud

enough to convey our message to the community. Neighbors came up to us and asked us what we were doing." No trouble or incidents were reported. The police stood by and watched the picketers. Berlandt told *GCN* that "the straight media refused to cover the protest."

Windows did not open in San Francisco or Northern California; according to Berlandt this was due to the "coverage and protests against the movie *Cruising*."

Atlanta, GA

On Sunday, March 9, forty women and a few men picketed the Tower Six movie theatre where *Windows* was playing. The demonstration was organized by the Feminist Women's Health Center and Atlanta Gay Democrats.

Protesters, carrying placards reading "Violence against women is not entertainment" and "Smash *Windows*," formed a picket line and leafletted cars as they drove into the theatre complex.

GCN spoke with Judy Brown, a member of Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance, who was at the demonstration. Brown said she felt the straight press had given "the demonstration good news coverage, including good television coverage." She told *GCN* that another demonstration was planned for Sunday, March 16 at the same theatre and that "we expect a bigger turn-out for this demonstration because we have more time to let people know about it."

New Organization Planned

Continued from Page 1

roots people of this country did that work."

Joyce Hunter and Juanita Ramos presented the Finance Committee report. They reported a \$35,660.12 debt incurred by the national march organization, \$10,000 of which is owed by regional committees of the march for buttons, t-shirts and posters. A fundraising committee was formed to begin to work to eradicate the debt; the committee plans a fundraising drive to try to raise \$25,000. *GCN* will report on the drive next issue.

Forming a New Organization

Delegates agreed that a new national lesbian and gay organization should be formed. Rofes, a Massachusetts delegate, explained to *GCN*, "Forming a new organization was a clear intention [of the delegates]; there's no national coalition that works on actions — marches, boycotts, demonstrations. We felt that what is needed is a grassroots organization to work on national issues, a support network to organize, for example, demonstrations around the country in support of gay people at the

time of the San Jose referenda." (The referenda will decide the fate of two gay rights bills passed in Santa Clara County, California.)

The conference assembly debated whether the coalition should form a new organization at the conference, as proposed by the Los Angeles delegation, or whether they should set up an interim structure to begin to build towards a new organization in the future. The conference overwhelmingly approved a proposal made by Rofes to establish an interim committee organization rather than a permanent structure. Stressing the underrepresentation of lesbians and Third World persons, Rofes said that "there has been a history of people feeling disenfranchised from organizations that claim to represent them." St. Louis delegate Jane Levin added that "we do not have the mandate of the lesbian and gay community to create an organization at this time."

The conference adopted an amended proposal from the New York City delegation to establish a Lesbian and Gay Communications Network "to develop work-

ing ties within regions and simultaneously facilitate communication and action on a national level" and to "straighten the already existing national network established at the Houston conference." The proposal called for the establishment of a new national organization, tentatively called the "National Coalition of Lesbian and Gay Organizations and Individuals" to be formed at a delegated conference in one year, with Easter weekend, 1981 as the targeted meeting date.

The "national grid of communications" would be responsible for functioning between national conferences as an interim committee, with power to initiate actions in instances of regional or national emergencies requiring an immediate response; coordinating long term actions; and disseminating information among subregional and regional communicators. The network would be formed by the election of four representatives from each of seven national regions. Gender parity and at least 20% Third World representation was mandated for each regional delegation.

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Gays Support the Revolution in Nicaragua

By John Kyper

On July 19, 1979, victorious guerillas poured into the capital city of Managua, Nicaragua, finally ending one of the most repressive dictatorships in twentieth century Latin America. For nearly half a century the Somoza family — Tacho and his sons Luis and Anastasio — had run this Central American country of two million like it was their own private enterprise, brutally suppressing all opposition and accumulating a vast personal fortune in the process.

As a result of the Somoza regime, 60% of the people remained illiterate and in extreme poverty, without running water, electricity or medical care. Of the children who survived until the age of four, 50% suffered from malnutrition. Under Somoza, the country had the highest per capita military expenditure in Central America — and the lowest in education and health. International aid money that poured into the country after the 1972 earthquake was siphoned off by Anastasio Somoza to finance his own businesses.

The United States has intervened in the internal affairs of the country since the middle of the 19th century. Nicaragua has been called America's first Vietnam because of repeated invasions by the U.S. Marines. The first Somoza in power, Tacho, who was assassinated in 1956, had been trained at West Point. He was made head of the Nicaraguan National Guard by the Americans and seized power in 1936, a few years after the American withdrawal. With American support he built up the Guard, which operated as the Somoza family personal army. Our tax dollars at work.

Opposition to Anastasio Somoza ran deep through every sector of the Nicaraguan population, from *campesinos(as)* (peasants) to the bourgeoisie. This opposition was led by the Sandinista National Liberation Front, FSLN, named after Augusto Sandino, who led nationalist rebels against the Marines and then against Somoza until his assassination in 1956. The combined forces of the FSLN made Somoza's final overthrow inevitable, despite substantial U.S. military aid. Young Nicaraguan women and men, armed only with machetes, machine guns and Molotov cocktails fought for years against the well-armed and equipped National Guard, providing a painful image of American support of dictatorships.

Since July, a transitional government has been formed to aid in reconstruction and redevelopment of this war-torn country. Foreign visitors report that the spirit of cooperation and hope is inspiring and uplifting. At the same time, the problems faced by the government of reconstruction headed by five leaders are enormous. Not only do they have to deal with the effects of Somoza's exploitation, but they are saddled with a foreign debt — most of it to American banks — that is greater than all of the country's annual export earnings.

The current plan is to mix state-owned enterprises with private investment to get the economy functioning again. All of the country's secondary schools and universities will be closed on March 24, 1980 to enable students to participate in a giant literacy campaign. The Nicaraguan people are on the move toward a new future, and if they can balance the internal problems and contradictions without alienating the United States, they stand their first chance of real self-determination.

San Francisco is the home of the largest Nicaraguan community outside Managua. The tremendous excitement in the Latin community about the Nicaraguan revolution has spilled over into other communities of the city, including the gay community. In July, 1979, a gay educational event about Nicaragua sparked the formation of Gay People for the Nicaraguan Revolution, to work within the gay community to raise support for the reconstruction process. The group works with Casa Nicaragua, a local community center and representative of the FSLN, which is leading reconstruction support work in California.

The connections are there to be made. "It has become clear that right-wingers who back anti-gay campaigns in this country are the same people who are attempting to destroy the revolution in Nicaragua," argues a pamphlet produced by the group. Somoza was a darling of the New Right, those folks whose profession is hate. U.S. Rep. Larry McDonald (D-GA), who has introduced anti-gay legislation into Congress, visited Somoza before he was overthrown and has lobbied to deny all aid to the new government.

Roberto is a gay Nicaraguan who helped found Gay People for the Nicaraguan Revolution. The following interview with Roberto and Linda, another member, took place on January 3, 1980, two days before Roberto left San Francisco to work in the reconstruction of his country:

John: How did Gay People for the Nicaraguan Revolution start?

Roberto: It was started back in June. There was a group of gay people who felt that there was a lot of gay energy for Nicaragua that was not being channelled properly; there was not a group aimed at progressive gays who were interested in doing political work for Nicaragua. And so four or five of us got together and put on an educational event. I was the only Nicaraguan, the rest were Americans.

J: What activities have you been doing?

R: We have had quite a few fund-raisers. We have raised around \$6000 for the Nicaraguan revolution. We have done a great deal of educational outreach work to the gay and lesbian community. We also have been doing some educational work, indirectly, with the Nicaraguan political groups here in San Francisco.

J: How large is the group?

Linda: We have about ten hardcore people, and we have about 20 others who are willing to work. Every event that we've had has been packed. We just had a [San Francisco] Mime Troupe benefit and we had standing room only. It seems like there's a tremendous amount of support, at least in the local gay community, for the work that we're doing. We've been getting very, very positive feedback on it, consistently.

R: Especially from the lesbian community.

J: How large is the Nicaraguan exile community?

R: It has been estimated around 40,000 people in San Francisco. Other exile communities are not as large. There is a large Nicaraguan community in Miami, which is made up of Somoza exiles [including Anastasio Somoza], and there are ones in New York, in Los Angeles, and in San Jose, Costa Rica.

J: How many of the people here, do you estimate, are returning to Nicaragua, now that the Somoza regime has been overthrown?

R: A very small percentage. I wouldn't think it would be over one thousand people.

J: Why do you think that is true?

R: The ones who were born in Nicaragua and moved here, now they feel they are too old to go back. These are people who came here in the '40s and '50s, so they are people now who are in their 50s and early 60s. They feel they have their lives already organized here. There also are people who don't particularly have a revolutionary spirit, a spirit to forego comfort. They are afraid of going to Nicaragua because it will mean that their standard of living is going to go down. Then the young ones, the ones who were born here, they don't feel so close to Nicaragua.

J: You've been here seven years. You could have been one of the people who are staying. Why are you going back?

R: I cannot use my case as the typical example of the Nicaraguan immigrants here. My family never emigrated out of Nicaragua, I was just a student. I always went back to Nicaragua on holidays, so I kept close emotional ties to my land, and I never felt like I was an American. I lived here and I lived in Europe, too. Another reason why I want to go back is because I identify with what is going on politically in Nicaragua.

J: I was at a demonstration in July, just after Somoza had been forced to flee. I marched in your contingent. I felt a lot of support from the Nicaraguans there, generally. How have the relations been between the Gay People for the Nicaraguan Revolution and the local Nicaraguan community?

L: For the most part they've been very good. We have been given quite a bit of support. Our group, as well as the Gay and Latino Alliance and *Mujers En Lucha: Lesbianas Latinas*, all marched on Mission Street on July 14, and recently marched supporting the struggles in El Salvador. For the most part we have had tremendous support from Casa Nicaragua and from the Nicaraguan consul in San Francisco for what we're doing. We have been warmly welcomed, as has every other solidarity group.

J: Do you have any contacts with the gay community in Nicaragua? Did you come out there or did you come out when you were abroad?

R: I first came out when I was abroad, but I had a second coming out four years ago in Nicaragua, as well. I have contact with some gay people there — only with a couple of them — not with any gay organizations, because there are none. There has never been a gay organization in Nicaragua. But I know of some political gays in Nicaragua who are doing active political work, not as members of any gay organization but as individuals.

J: One of the things that a lot of people are very wary of are the possible parallels to Cuba, where, after the revolution, they imprisoned homosexuals in camps. You seem to feel that there's not that danger there?

R: I just don't see any reason why the Nicaraguan revolution is suddenly going to be using the gays as a scapegoat, because the issue of gayness in Cuba was not the same as it is in Nicaragua. First of all, Cuba had a real large American tourist trade. A lot of gay American tourist trade that came to Cuba to live it up. So there was a lot of male prostitution, of gay people very much into the commercialization of vices such as drugs, cocaine and the casinos. There was an element of capitalistic decadence inside the gay community of Cuba. That probably was what generated the hysteria against gays in Cuba. In Nicaragua the gays have never played a major role in any aspect of Nicaraguan life. I don't particularly foresee any witchhunt for gays — there's no reason for it.

J: What direction do you think the Nicaraguan revolution will take?

R: It's already on the path to a Nicaraguan version of socialism. It's going to be a very pragmatic version of socialism, going very fast in certain aspects, not so fast in others — according to our realities. I see it as definitely going to be a system in which the oppressed and the underprivileged classes are the ones who are going to benefit the most, at the expense of those who had everything before.

J: What can people in the United States do to support you?

R: They can certainly help a lot by doing fundraising and doing political education on the Nicaraguan revolution among the American public. With the money



Nicaragua, September, 1979

Doug Kitts

we will be getting the means and the tools to rebuild Nicaragua. Through the political education on Nicaragua, we are insuring that we will not have another North American military intervention in our country, which is still a possibility, especially if the right wing elements in the United States acquire executive power again.

L: How many American interventions have there been in Nicaragua?

R: We have had three in this century.

J: What contacts do you have with gay movements in other Latin American countries, and what connections do you have with local groups like the Gay and Latino Alliance (GALA)?

R: At this moment we don't have too many contacts, but before I go to Nicaragua, I'm stopping over in Mexico City to establish contact with people from FHAR [Frente Homosexual de Accion Revolucionaria — see GCN, Vol. 7, No. 8]. As far as the Third World gay groups in San Francisco, we have had some contact with them. GALA organized a benefit for Nicaragua in August, and we hope to work with them in the future.

J: Is there anything you want to add?

R: I would like to talk to the gay people who are interested in the revolutionary process of Nicaragua: It's not to be so demanding with the recognition of the gay issue because, first of all, we in Nicaragua, as gays, have never suffered an official witchhunt. We have not been put down, officially, by the government, ever. There's really no need for us for this strong recognition now of the gay movement from the authorities of Nicaragua. The kind of oppression we have felt has been social oppression, and that's very hard to eradicate. You don't eradicate that kind of oppression with laws and with statements. The only way you change society's attitudes is by working inside the society, by integrating inside that society. I feel that the direction for the gay movement to follow in Nicaragua at this point is not one of confrontation. I feel it's more [important] for gay people to integrate themselves into the reconstruction work in Nicaragua, to start coming out slowly to their friends and acquaintances, to show themselves as gay individuals who are productive inside the Nicaraguan revolution. Later on, once we have created a whole group of gay people who are very progressive, we can start banding together as a revolutionary organization, but not now.

L: Gay people who are interested could get in touch with our group, specifically, around helping us channel money in the name of gay people. Checks can be made out to Gays for Nicaragua, and we can send you a brochure. Any donation or letter can be addressed to P.O. Box 23984, Oakland, CA 94623.



Women's Rally for Nicaragua, October, 1979

Doug Kitts

Theater

People Against the Machine

Windfall
Little Flags Theatre
Boston Center for the Arts
551 Tremont St.
8:00 p.m.

By Marty Kingsbury

“There’s something spooky about this place. We’re out in the middle of the country but there’s not a sound, not even a cricket.”

“Yeah . . . it sounds like death.”

Windfall, the current production of Little Flags Theatre, documents the lives of three people squeezed out of work by the rising power of computerization and nuclear technology. Lyle Fine, a pianist and trumpet player at the Barrelhouse Tavern, is being replaced by a disco/juke box. Scoop Fitzgerald lost one of his arms some years ago at the steel mill where he worked. Now he manages a small gas station for Gulf Oil, and he’s being replaced by a self-service station. Biddie Gazinski, a 63 year old woman, like other non-unionized workers, is the last hired and the first fired from her menial jobs. They all live from hand to mouth; they gamble together, play poker at the Barrelhouse and sing “Live today, cry tomorrow,/ Let a good drink drown your sorrow.” They keep their dignity intact and their spirits alive through their friendship and their music.

“You work all your life for next to no money, but it’s what you do,” says Lyle, his fingers moving like crutches up and down the keyboard, “and unless some big company can put you in a package and sell you across the counter, you’re worth nothing.” Poverty pushes them all toward desperation: automated voices from inside the walls try to interview Biddie for a job as cashier, and each phone call that



they receive slices further through the thin rope of their alternatives. They are offered \$1435.00 for one night’s work if they agree to dump a truckload of nuclear waste. Their excuses grow feeble, voices chant beneath their dialogue: “It’s a cold winter coming our way,/ We won’t make it through unless we turn a trick today.”

What is nuclear death? *Windfall* takes us out to the countryside, where there are no sounds, where everything is hollow and empty, where even the echo of life is smothered in a void. Smells rise in our imaginations, the rotting carcasses of animals and birds. Nuclear death is strong enough to dissolve a lead shovel. A haunting picture is created where the little scraps of light left in the world

have no shadows, no dimensions, no value. It is the edge of time without life, when even money loses meaning. “It is a billion dollar profit margin that justifies murder,” claims Scoop.


Little Flags is committed to integrating the many issues of oppressed peoples into the workings of their shows. *Windfall* makes many simple yet provocative connections between the modern day class struggle, feminism, artistic poverty and the rising nuclear technology. In the beginning of *Windfall* it was hard to grasp the enormous amount of material presented. The sincerity and trust between the characters seemed shallow and flippant, vehicles for rhetorical persuasion: Biddie’s devotion to her stuffed

animals seemed unimportant next to Lyle’s involvement with music, or Scoop’s handicap of only one arm. But as their stories began to unfold, they became strong, tangible characters, unashamed of their individual eccentricities. What at first seemed silly in Biddie, evolved into a deep-seated compassion and respect for life, for the earth.


Lyle, Scoop, and Biddie each come to recognize and celebrate the strength of their lives and their friendships. It is wonderful that the men did not abuse Biddie’s ability for compasion; as characters *and as actors* they became vulnerable to their own emotional possibilities; they take responsibility for their decisions and their actions; they are open to

their own human frailty and limitations. Through their faces, through their songs, came pain, sorrow, defeat, vulnerability in love and friendship, but finally, celebration of their strength.


Little Flags is a strong company. Under the direction of Maxine Klein, *Windfall* is a tightly worked show giving courage to the anti-nuke movement. Between the music, the sincerity of the actors and the haunting moods of the lights, I became absorbed in the turnings and workings of these people’s lives. *Windfall* is a statement about the necessities in all of our lives. Little Flags will be doing a benefit for Judy Chicago’s artwork, the Dinner Party’s tour to Boston, on March 28th at 8 p.m.



Oh dear, another coming out story.



Don't be so blasé, Sweet Pea. Coming Out stories are an important part of our collective memory. Keep in touch with the news, opinions, and yes, the memories of the lesbian and gay community. Subscribe to G.C.N.!

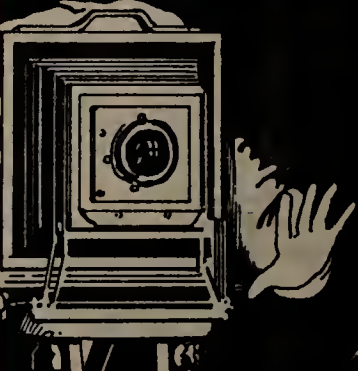


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Film

To Forget *To Forget Venice*

To Forget Venice

Directed by Franco Brusati
With Erland Josephson, Mari-
angela Melato, Eleonora
Giorgi, David Pontremoli
At the Orson Welles, Cambridge,
MA

By Andrea Loewenstein

I came out of the movies the other night, thinking that I'd better sit down and write my review quickly, before I forgot *To Forget Venice*. I knew I would remember the pretty scenery (it is a very pretty movie, which sometimes even forgets to notice how pretty it is) but I thought I might forget the plot and characters. If I had sat down that night and written the review then it would not have been particularly deprecatory. Very mildly enthusiastic, I'd felt. Inoffensive.

As it happened, I waited until the next morning, when I woke with an unexpectedly bad taste in my mouth, and the wish that I had been able to forget a little more of this film. At the same time, I felt ashamed of my reaction. In a world where *Windows* is my other choice if I want to see lesbian characters on film, I wondered whether I should be thankful for the lesbian characters in *To Forget Venice*, who are not actually murdering one another. Although the dominant (that is older, smarter, and bossier) member of the lesbian couple in this film does get the urge to murder her partner, she has the grace to stop at beating her around a little and throwing a tea-cup in her face. She then goes to lock herself in a barn for three days, so that no one else has to catch her lesbian-crazy cooties. Luckily, a nice and sane young man (also gay, but healthily capable of and ready to engage in sex with women also) comes along to comfort her and bring her back to the fold.

Yes, it could certainly be worse. After all, both lesbian characters are fairly decent, sensitive people, who feel sad when their friend dies, and are kind to a half-senile old servant. One of them likes children, and it would certainly not occur to her to molest any. (I guess I *should* be thankful!) And

they are both so pretty, as we have plenty of opportunity to observe, what with all the unmotivated shots of their perfect, slim bodies, with even the nipples tanned. . . . I kept hoping they might touch one another (even a fully-dressed hand-clasp would have been nice), but they never do. Just bodies.

The director, Brusati, does not make us *blame* the characters for the way they are. After all, sickness isn't exactly a person's fault. In the first few frames of the film, we see Claudia, the saccharine-sweet, overgrown schoolgirl, who is the passive member of the couple, writhing in distaste and horror at the sight of a man and woman who are, in turn, writhing in the bushes. Later, we see her weeping because she is menstruating, as she apparently does every month on this occasion. Lest we miss the point, her lover, Anna, hastens to point out that Claudia is a case of arrested development. She is clearly stuck inside this murky, no-woman's land of lesbianism because of her inability to grow up to be a real woman and face the (male) music.

Anna, the other case, has been traumatized at an early age by a hysterical mother, who raved and made scenes about her husband who left her, thus turning the small Anna against the male sex forever. (Actually, the mother is portrayed as such an unrelievedly bad witch that, following this logic, the daughter should have turned out *asexual*, not lesbian.)

Neither character moves for an instant beyond their labels of "pretty but bitchy manhater" and "blond overgrown schoolgirl." For neither one is lesbianism a positive choice, or, indeed, a choice at all. And maybe I am terribly ungrateful, but I think I'll have to hold my thanks until *Rubyfruit Jungle* is finally funded.

The male pair is treated better. Although each is quite troubled, this seems in their case to be within the scope of normal and likeable neuroticism, and not connected to their homosexuality. We do get a hot shot or two of the

younger man's perfect body (none of the older one's) although nothing near the numerous nude shots of the women. One of the main themes of the film is the individual's struggle to come to terms with aging and mortality, and this theme comes across well through the medium of the male characters, who are not hopelessly obfuscated by stereotyping.

It is possible that I am being unfair to this film. After years of such stuff, one's tolerance level lowers to the point where even a fairly light and inoffensive fuse can touch it off.

The two men *are* sweet, and I did feel for the older one, Nicki, in his gentle and wistful effort to stop time, and his final coming to terms with it. Martha, his sister, a former opera singer and great lady, is elegant and moving, and I mourned her death. I found several scenes quite flawless, especially those in which Brusati slightly departs from his realistic approach, and enters a more magical, fluid or fantastic mode. These include the scene with the witch mother, whose fake suicide, complete with soap-bubble foaming at the mouth is seen from the child's point of view, and every scene in which Katerina, the fervent and elegant old servant appears: obsessively setting the table for an absent family, or throwing her parakeet out the window to give it its freedom (actually it plummets to its death).

The symbolism is often heavy handed. Jets interrupt a scene of old-time comfort, clocks appear whenever time is in question, and the dart-pierced photograph of Anna's parents is shown once too often (I got the point the first time she threw darts and eggs at it!). The technique in which the character appears as an observer inside the scene of his or her own flashback was interesting at first, but finally irritated me. These reservations aside, I found the cinematography on the whole pleasing, and often memorable. I enjoyed the movie quite a lot, really. It was just the aftertaste I didn't like so well.

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Music

Meg Christian Performs



Meg Christian appeared in concert in Cambridge on March 12 at Sanders Theater. Also performing were Maxine Feldman and pianist J.T. Thomas. The concert was produced by Allegra Productions.

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Almost 100 years after universal acceptance of the germ theory of disease, it is appalling that every individual is still not being taught the significance of the role of personal hygiene in the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. All VD Prevention programs must emphasize personal hygiene principles which should be taught from the beginning of adolescence in every health and sex education course. Past efforts to treat VD out of existence have failed; therefore, we must use all available methods of PREVENTION, in conjunction with treatment, to combat the present VD epidemic. Here are some highlights from our widely acclaimed booklet — (soon available in Spanish and Japanese)

THE NEW VENEREAL DISEASE PREVENTION FOR EVERYONE

Personal Hygiene is Significant to VD PREVENTION and Good Health

Page 2: THE SEXUALLY ACTIVE MALE

Careful washing after sex will reduce the possibility of catching VD. The germs that cause syphilis and gonorrhea, as well as some other sexually transmitted diseases, are sensitive to soap and water. Wash before sex for hygienic purposes.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER INTERCOURSE:

Soap genitals working a bit of soft mushy soap into urinary opening.

Rinse.

Repeat procedure.

Then urinate (which may sting).

Extended exposure or delay before washing diminishes the effectiveness of this preventive measure. Washing is doubly important since even in the absence of syphilis and gonorrhea, other sexually transmitted germs can cause infections such as NGU (non-gonococcal urethritis) or NSU (non-specific urethritis).

If lubricants are involved in the sex act, use water-soluble preparations that will wash away. Do not use an oil base that will leave a film to trap the germs.

NOTE: The foreskin that covers the head of the penis may trap germs which can cause infections. Therefore, special attention should be given to washing the uncircumcised penis.

When vaccines against gonorrhea and syphilis will have been developed, personal hygiene will remain necessary to prevent other sexually transmitted diseases. For example: A gonorrhea vaccine will not prevent approximately half of the reported cases of male urethritis which are not gonorrhea.

Page 3: SOME ASPECTS OF PERSONAL HYGIENE FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Infectious germs which are commonly found in the lower digestive tract may be transmitted from the rectum during certain sex activities. Among the dangerous germs present may be the virus which causes hepatitis, and parasites which cause gastro-intestinal disorders if they enter the mouth (anal-oral route).

The mucous membranes of the genito-urinary system are highly susceptible to infection by some of these germs from the rectum. For example: As a result of careless wiping from rectum towards vagina by the female after toilet, germs are easily spread to the vagina where they may cause infections, and from which they may be transmitted during vaginal, as well as rectal, intercourse. Therefore, females must not wipe in the direction of rectum to vagina. . . .

Personal hygiene before and after sex can be greatly aided by the bidet, a low bathroom fixture, designed to facilitate washing for disease prevention and proper cleansing after toilet. Not everyone, unfortunately, has been adequately informed as to the advantages of the bidet; it is not found, for instance, in homes or hotels in the United States, whereas in many parts of the world it is widely used and significant to personal hygiene. Good hygiene requires careful washing of genital and rectal areas before and after sex.

Men and Women: In our booklet learn also about—

The significance during treatment of no sex contact which may spread the disease, and particularly during treatment for urethritis, no alcohol which may irritate the GU system, delaying cure. The importance of a follow-up visit to the physician to see if further treatment is required.

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Gay Nurses' Alliance Comes to Boston

By Joyce Crowder

The Gay Nurse's Alliance (GNA) is a national organization of gay health workers, mostly registered nurses, although other professional gay health care workers are welcomed. The organization was founded in 1973 by E. Carolyn Innes and G. David Waldron, registered nurses from Philadelphia, who recognized the prejudiced and incomplete medical treatment frequently experienced by gay patients. Who could better combat these injustices and attitudes than professional health workers who were also gay?

Thus, GNA came to be. It met with immediate resistance, of course, both from the conventional "establishment" as well as from gay people who were not free to be open, fearing the loss of license, job, family and friends. An understandable and unbelievably difficult situation, to be sure. Fortunately, the choice is now not always so traumatic. However, the risk of great loss is still present, and will be until legislation is enacted and prejudices removed.

Basically, GNA was formed to insure better health care for gay

people in hospitals, clinics, doctors' offices or wherever we appear for care. A different sexual preference can, many times, complicate an already involved physical and/or emotional state. GNA seeks to support and strengthen its own members, both on a personal and a professional level.

Other aims include the fostering of a general public and professional awareness that gay people exist both as patients and as workers in all fields of health care and the refutation of the generally accepted and totally inaccurate stereotypical image of gay persons as unproductive, unstable and deviant members of our culture. We hope to learn how to combat this homophobia by whatever means possible wherever we meet it.

In addition to these goals, and in pursuit of them, GNA/Boston plans to include as concerns public health issues such as alcoholism, nuclear hazards, toxic wastes, and other matters of interest to our members and the community as a whole. In this way, we hope to broaden our base of membership and also to make ourselves as gay people better known as caring,

working individuals, with many diverse interests, who also have a special sexual preference.

The quality of the group, as always, must depend on the interest and support of its members. Participation and interest have been difficult to generate despite great effort. We hope to remedy this with outreach and a wider sphere of activities.

We feel very strongly that the '80s must be active and productive years for us as gay professional people if we are to achieve the recognition, respect and support which we deserve, and if we are to see our goals realized. We urge you to become involved, in some way, to some extent. Membership is only \$5.00 a year (more will of course be appreciated!) and includes a subscription to the GNA national newsletter, *The Signal*. The membership is confidential of course.

For more information, write GNA/East, P.O. Box 673, Randolph, MA 02368 if east of the Mississippi River or GNA/West, P.O. Box 1015, Brownville, TX 78520, if in the western part of the U.S.

Hope for Gay GIs

By Richard Matera

Serving in the armed forces overseas is often difficult and lonely. The barracks are overcrowded; it is expensive to go off-post to relax; and there is a language and cultural barrier. To be gay and in the armed forces overseas is doubly difficult. That is why, when I first arrived in West Germany two years ago, I began to organize a group of English speaking gays for gay GIs to contact for advice and help and to make friends — an opportunity to be themselves while off duty. Serving in Germany for a gay soldier is difficult. In the USA, it is easier for a soldier to be "just another person" on a weekend. Here it is not so easy. It helps to have a gay friend and be able to go out into the gay community while overseas. English-Speaking Gays (ESG) is a loosely organized group which grew out of the remnants of two groups, one based in Frankfurt and one based in Karlsruhe. As of January, 1980, we are about 25 Americans, Germans and British.

A typical letter to ESG is from a gay soldier, 21 years old, overseas for the first time on his first three year enlistment. He is still not settled in Germany. He is just confronting and coming to understand his own gayness. He feels isolated. He is not sure how to make friends or where to go to meet other gay people. He is lone-



ly — perhaps he is a "barracks-rat." He needs a friend who is gay to talk to. He must be discreet because of the homophobia of the US military and of the soldiers he serves with. He may read about ESG in *The Enlisted Times* or find the address in *Spartacus*, the international gay guide, or through one of the gay newspapers or magazines in the USA. He writes to ESG seeking information, help, advice — a friend.

I answer every letter mailed to ESG personally, trying to help whenever possible, giving information and the addresses of places to go and friends in the writer's location. In the majority of cases, the writer to ESG will meet one or more friends who can help him overcome his loneliness and isolation and make his overseas tour of duty more bearable.

A gay serviceman must always be looking over his shoulder. The army's attitude is quite clear. AR635-200 (Nov. 21, 1977) states, "Policy with respect to homosexuality. It is HQDA policy that homosexuality is incompatible with military service. A person with homosexual tendencies seriously impairs discipline, good order, morale and security of a military unit." (para. 13-2d, pg. 13-1). A gay GI must always be on his guard even if he is an outstanding soldier.

We have two addresses where we can be reached. Please feel free to write. Our German contact address is:

ESG
attn: Richard
Postfach 6526
B-7500 Karlsruhe 1
West Germany

If you live in the USA or are currently serving in the armed forces, you can write to me directly. My military address is:

Richard A. Matera
Co. A 8 Aviation Bn.
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It is always encouraging to hear from friends back in the USA to keep in touch with what is going on back home.

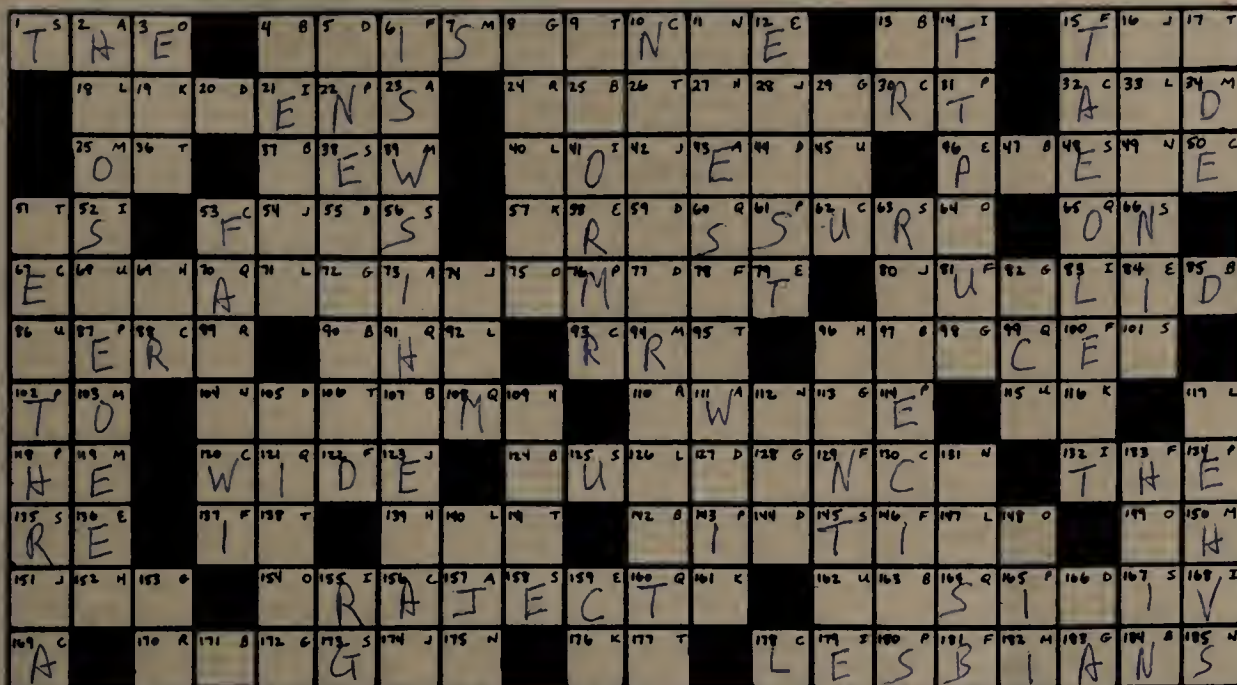
Together we must stand for our rights. Together we must work for a better gay community. We are everywhere, in every country, in every walk of life. Let us not be afraid to improve our situation and work for our place in society. To be gay is to be proud of ourselves. Gay is better than a lie.

CORRECTION

Last week's centerspread was written by Jil Clark and Aimee Sands. The photo of Gloria Steinem was by Susan Fleischmann.

The GCN Puzzle

A Gay Double Crostic



Instructions

By Robin Bechhofer

This diagram, fully filled in, presents a quoted passage, reading from left to right, with the black squares representing spaces between words.

To fill it in, begin by guessing the words defined below and writing them over their numbered dashes. Then transfer each letter to the correspondingly numbered square in the diagram.

As you proceed, you will also be able to work the other way around. Certain combinations of letters in the diagram will suggest words. Fill in the missing letters and then transfer them back to the appropriate dashes (using the identifying number and letter in the upper corners of the square). This will help you figure out words which are not obvious from their definitions.

The first letters of the guessed words, read in sequence, spell out the name of the author and the title of the source of the selection.

- A. Like members of Am Tikva:..... J E V I S H
157 43 111 73 23 2
- B. Feminist classic (1929; 5 wds.):.....
124 47 163 25 171 97 142 13 184 4 85 107 90 37
- C. Modern threat to the survival of humankind (2 wds.):..... N U C L E A R W A R F A R E
10 62 130 178 87 32 88 120 169 93 53 156 30 50
- D. Stimulation; agitation:.....
77 5 144 127 166 105 20 59 44 55
- E. Written acknowledgement of money paid:..... R E C E I P T
58 12 159 136 84 46 79
- F. Free from expected social or moral constraints:..... U N I N H I B I T E D
81 129 146 78 133 6 181 137 15 100 122
- G. Meeting place for some gay men (2 wds.):..... A
72 128 183 8 153 29 113 82 172 98
- H. Result; cause to occur:.....
27 96 139 109 152 69
- I. Unused portion of food:..... L E F T O V E R S
83 21 14 132 41 168 179 155 52
- J. "Roommate" or "companion," e.g.:..... E
174 54 80 16 123 28 151 74 42
- K. Light parody:.....
161 57 176 19 116
- L. Worship; submit to (3 wds.):.....
71 92 18 126 140 40 33 117 147
- M. Gay playwright and fiction writer (1904- ; "The Berlin Stories"):..... I S H E R W O O D
182 7 150 119 94 39 103 35 34
- N. Collection of pus:..... S
112 104 49 11 131 175 185
- O. Quentin Bell, to Virginia Woolf:..... E
148 3 154 75 64 149
- P. Independent socialist newspaper (3 wds.):..... I N T H E S E T I M E S
143 22 102 118 87 180 114 31 165 76 134 61
- Q. Sadist's partner:..... M A S O C H I S T
108 70 164 65 99 91 121 60 160
- R. Intentions, purposes:.....
110 170 24 89
- S. Lover of Alice B. Toklas (full name):.. G E R T R U D E S T E I N
173 48 63 145 135 125 101 158 56 1 38 167 68
- T. Bubble forth; show high spirits:.....
51 177 36 95 141 26 9 138 106 17
- U. Establishments on Commercial St. in Provincetown:.....
68 88 115 182 45

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WANTED PARTNER-WOODWORKING
I am looking for a partner to help me make weathervanes and children's toys in Bost area. Have tools and workshop. Contact Larry at GCN 426-4469.

HIKERS

Looking for womyn Interested in hiking all or part of the Appalachian Trail. Starting in GA mid April. Hope to reach Maine by Sept. For further info contact Joan Warren P.O. Box 5902, Santa Fe, NM 87501. (35)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Senior Action in a Gay Environment, Inc., full-time administrative position. Background in gerontology, administrative experience, knowledge of aging and lesbian/gay community/service network. Masters degree in gerontology or related field desirable. Salary commensurate with qualifications. Send resume by April 1, 1980 to Chairperson, Search Committee, Senior Action in a Gay Environment, Inc., 487-A Hudson St., New York, NY 10014. (34)

PRINTERS WANTED

Radical co-op printshop looking for two full-time printers and/or photostrippers. Contact New England Free Press, 60 Union Sq, Somerville, MA 02143 (617) 628-2450. (34)

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY

Ad reps needed to work immediately! F.T. or P.T. during your own hrs. Meet new people, explore new places. Great for supplemental income. 20% commission. Will train. Looking for reps to work NYC, Wash. DC, Mid-west ... all areas. Ad agency inquires encouraged! Call "Yama," Gay Community News (617) 426-7042. (c)

FUNDRAISER WANTED

Quest: a feminist quarterly (a 501 (C)(3) organization), is looking for a fundraiser who can work on a commissioned basis. In its fifth year, *Quest* is an independent journal publishing feminist theory and political analysis. Join us in a unique work experience. Our only requirement is enthusiasm! Contact: Alexa Freeman, P.O. Box 8843, Washington, DC 20003. (202) 293-1347. (x)

FUNDRAISER WANTED

Earn a commission raising funds for the Mass. Caucus for Gay Legislation. Exciting part-time work. Call after 3, M-Th at 742-4811. Thank you.

AD REPS

Rapidly expanding Feminist Monthly has openings for P.T.-F.T. reps. Salary based on experience, plus 15% commission. 661-3587. (x)

ORGANIZATIONS

Reston Gay Rap Group meets twice a month, 1st Friday, 3rd Tuesday each month. Get it all together! Browns Chapel, Rte. 606, Reston, VA 22090.

WOMEN: WE NEED OUR OWN

political party to consolidate our power and overthrow the economic and sexual relations to bring about a society that will meet the needs of the mothers & therefore, all the oppressed. Call Nancy 522-5470. (?)

D.O.B.

Support organization for lesbians, 1151 Mass Av, Camb. Old Camb Bap. Raps every Tues & Thurs 8pm. 35 plus rap 2nd W & 4th Fri, 8pm. Bi-monthly magazine FOCUS \$8.00. Monthly social & fund-raising event. Info & office hrs 661-3633. All women invited to participate. (23)

In New Jersey, the Gay Activist Alliance/Morris County meets every Monday at 8:30 p.m. using facilities of Untarian Fellowship, Normandy Heights Rd., Morristown, NJ. Info: (201) 691-0388.

NH LAMBDA

Box 1043, Concord, NH 03301. 332-4440, 889-1416, 224-3785, 399-4927, 224-8517. A statewide lesbian organization, meeting the third Saturday of every month. Support, education and political action, since 1976.

BOSTON OCTAGON

Homosexual Association: for those who are honest and open with their desire to expect an affirmative return from an opposite race — within the homosexual community. Information on request. GCN Box 217. (34)

GREAT AMERICAN LESBIAN ART SHOW

Women organizing for the Great American Lesbian Art Show — Boston will be meeting weekly on Saturdays. For locations and/or further information call 787-1441 or send SASE to GCN Box 225. (40)

BOSTON AREA

NEW AMERICAN MOVEMENT

NAM is a national Socialist-feminist org w/local chapters in more than 40 cities. Recently active in abortion & reproductive rts, gay/lesbian March on Wash., anti-nukes, local labor struggles. Info from Boston-Area NAM, POB 443, Somerville, MA 02144 or (617) 661-8372.

SUPPORT LESBIAN MOTHERS

Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund, 2446 Lorentz Place, W. Seattle, WA 98109. (206) 282-5798. Membership \$5.00.

NGTF NEEDS YOU

Join with the largest, fastest growing gay civil rights group in the country! The National Gay Task Force works with a professional staff on media representation, national legislation, information clearing-house, religious reforms, corporate non-discrimination statements, more! Help support our work—join now. \$20 membership (\$5 limited income) Includes Newsletter. NGTF, 80 Fifth Ave. Rm. 1601, New York, NY 10011.

IDENTITY HOUSE

Lesbian, gay, bi, peer counseling and groups. Rap groups: 2:30-5pm Sat. for women, and Sun. for men. Free walk-in counselling. Sun.-Tues. 6-10pm. Donations accepted. 544 Ave. of Americas, NYC. 212-243-8181.

GAY SWITCHBOARD OF NYC

When you're in New York, give us a call for the latest information on gay and lesbian events, which bars to go to, where to stay, what group to contact, and which businesses to patronize. Call us to rap or just to say hello. (212) 777-1800, from noon til midnight. (20)

BOSTON GAY CATHOLICS

Dignity/Boston sponsors EXODUS MASS, a liturgy for gay and concerned Catholics, every Sunday at Arlington Street Church (Boston), right side entrance on Arlington St. at 5:30pm. For info contact Dignity/Boston, 355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02114. Tel. 536-6518.

Metropolitan Community Church of Boston, services each Sunday at 7:00 p.m. (hymn sing 6:45), 131 Cambridge St., Boston (Old West Church). Edward T. Hougen, pastor. Office 523-7664. All persons are welcome.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WORCESTER
Church service at 2 Wellington St., 7pm Sundays. Potluck Supper and Communion every Weds. at 7pm. 753-8360.

THE BOSTON TRIANGLE

Forming homosexual association for those who are honest in desire open with a return expectation from the opposite race within the homosexual community. Initial statement sent on request. GCN Box 217. (34)

JOIN INTEGRITY

Gay Episcopalians and Friends. Chapters in major cities, worship program, social events. Free publication sample on request. Write J. Lawrence, 10 Mercier Ave., Dorchester, MA 02124. (617) 262-3057. (26)

PUBLICATIONS

ENJOY GOOD GAY LIT?

\$1.00 will bring you (via discreet first-class mail) our illustrated up-to-date booklist with capsule descriptions of 140 current gay best-sellers from Lambda Books, Dept G, P.O. Box 248, Belvidere, NJ 07823. (37)

NEWS (LAMBDA) JERSEY

The monthly publication of the New Jersey Gay Coalition \$4 per year. Send check to: NJGC, Rutgers, P.O. Box 2901, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. (36)

Guardian, independent radical news-weekly, covers black, women's, gay struggles and liberation movements around the world. Special offer: six weeks for \$1. *Guardian*, Dept. GCN, 33 W. 17 St., NYC, NY 10011. (c)

Before you stop trying to find a lover try us. Advice, Fantasies, Personals. Twelve issues \$10, sample \$1. *You're Not Alone*, P.O. Drawer 8398CH, Atlanta, GA 30306. (c)

Periodicals by Mail is a project designed to give wider accessibility to worthwhile periodicals not distributed through many newsstands. For a free list of over 70 alternative periodicals which can be ordered by mail, send your name, address, and a 15¢ stamp to: *Periodicals by Mail*, a periodical retreat, 336½ S. State St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104. (1/mo)

Working Papers on Gay/Lesbian Liberation and Socialism — a collection of essays by members of the New American Movement, a national socialist-feminist organization. \$1.00 from Boston-Area NAM, POB 443, Somerville, MA 02144, (617) 661-8372. (21)

HOW GAY IS YOUR LIBRARY?

Pamphlet of tips for non-librarians on how to get gay materials into libraries, available from the Gay Task Force of the American Library Association. "Censored, Ignored, Overlooked, Too Expensive? How to Get Gay Materials into Libraries" explains library selection policies in a general way, and tells how you can get a library to buy more gay books & periodicals. Also tells what to do if library refuses your request; why gay bks are sometimes kept where you have to ask for them; & how to donate materials to the library. \$1 to Barbara Gittings — GTF, P.O. Box 2383, Phila., PA 19103. Bkstore & bulk order discount available. More info: Barbara Gittings (215) 382-3222. (c)

FOCUS

Focus: a bi-monthly journal for lesbians, \$8.00 per year, \$1.35 per individual copy. 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. Publishes fiction, poetry, reviews, essays, graphics. Editorial meetings first Monday of every other month (Apr, June, etc.) at 8pm. Call 259-0063 for info. We need writers and production people. A good place to learn how to put a magazine together.

WOMEN ORGANIZING

A Socialist-Feminist Bulletin. Articles on Socialist-feminist approaches to reproductive rights, lesbian/gay liberation, clerical organizing. Published by NAM *Socialist-Feminist Commission*, Box G, 3244 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60657, \$4 for four issues. Also available from Boston-Area NAM, POB 443, Somerville, MA 02144. (617) 661-8372. (ex)

Prisoners



support gay prisoners
read and answer
our prisoner penpals in the classifieds

GWM, 28, 6', grn e, lt brn h, practicing attorney-in-fact. Lonely, desire correspondence w/anyone regardless race, etc. Need someone who cares. Randy Bullen 138875, MCTC, Rt 3, Box 3333, Hagerstown, MD 21740. (20)

Gay male, 22, 5'2", 155lbs. Wish to correspond with fun-loving people who are for real with themselves. Write: Ronnie Cabelli, #77B-2072, 367 Cook St., Danemora, NY 12929.

I'd like to write to gay people and to get your paper, if that's possible without funds. (Ed. note: It is.) Please write Tony Clark, Georgia State Prison, 69252 #m-4, Reidsville, GA 30453.

I'd like to hear from other gay men who may be in search of a meaningful relationship. I'm 27 and like your paper very much. Dennis Daschofsky, Box 777, 626178, Monroe, WA 98272.

Young prisoner would like to correspond with someone who is sincere and interested in helping me prepare for the future. Fred Taylor, 068565, P.O. Box 1100-mail, #1457, Avon Park, FL 33825.

18 yr old gay male wants to write gay males and females because no family or friends will write now that they know I'm gay. Jeff Aliff, #148-608, P.O. Box 69, Condon, OH 43140.

GM 22 desires to write and establish meaningful relationship with fellow GMS. Will be out in nine months. Dennis Pasley, MCTC, Rt. 3, Box 3333, Hagerstown, MD 21740.

I am very lonely and a little depressed and sincerely interested in someone with an understanding and uninhibited nature. Duane Frazier, #147-274, P.O. Box 45699 BOCF, Lucasville, OH 45699.

GF, soon to be released seeks friends and correspondents. Please write to her. C. Green 27914, Box 900, Jefferson City, Missouri. (12)

Organizer of 'Men Against Sexism' at Walla Walla prison in Washington, transferred for political reasons to Tennessee. Would like to correspond with fellow faggots lucky enough to be on the outside. Ed Mead, #00911, Brushy Mt. Prison, Petros, TN 37845.

Lonely Indiana man, 24, doing sentence in Florida where I have no friends. Would very much appreciate being able to write to someone. Ray Fellows, #069032, P.O. Box 158, H-59, Lowell, FL 32663.

Extremely open-minded and versatile young gay, about to get out, would like to write other gays. Alvin Brown, #031464, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

I'd like to write gay males of all ages and races. My name is Dennis Cathey, #152-202, Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699.

25 yrs old, looking for life long relationship, about to get out and looking for a kindred spirit. Tim Sardich, 148-350, P.O. Box 69, London, OH 43140.

Mature, sensitive and lonely gay man wishes to correspond with others. All letters will be answered. John Davis, #142-801, P.O. Box 57, Marlon, OH 43302.

Gay prisoner, 22 yrs, Libra, into boxing, weights, reading and music. Please write Terry Stryker, #90478, Box 97, McAlester, OK 74501.

GCN gets lots of requests for penpal ads from prisoners. Almost none of them are paid for. If you would like to support the paper in this, and perhaps even increase the possibility of a more in depth dialogue between gay men and women on the inside and those of us lucky enough to be on the 'outside', please SEND MONEY. (We also send free subs to prisoners who ask.) In any case take the time to get to know someone who's getting more or less fucked over by strait law (euphemistically called 'justice') and who's obviously very lonely.

Families and Friends of Prisoners (1514a Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, MA 02122) is trying to organize transportation to and from Mass. prisons for prisoners' families and friends. If you can help call 265-8455.

I'd like some gay men to correspond with. I'm 22, like to swim, fish, play hockey and all water sports. Write to Roy Bissonette, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091. (1)

I've been reading your paper for two years now and have much enjoyed your outstanding journalism. I shall be released shortly and plan to move to Boston where I'll gladly volunteer my time to help with the paper. It'd be nice to meet some people by letter before arriving. If you're interested in writing me, my address is: Joseph McLeese, Box G #58170 E-74, Enfield, CT 06082. (1)

Joseph Sperling, age 20, hobbies: baseball, basketball, and all sports. I like sincere, honest men. Write if you can: P.O. Box 747, FSP, Starke, FL 32091. (1)

I'm a gay state prisoner and would like to meet other gays for friendship, visitation and possibly something deeper. My likes are many. I'm 30, from St. Petersburg, and will answer all letters. James Callahan F-9677, P.O. Box 244, Graterford, PA 19426. (1)

Hoping you can help me out in my unfortunate situation. I'll be out at the end of this year, but in the meantime my "friends" have all deserted me and I'd like someone to share my thoughts with and become friends. Thank you for any help that you can give me. Ralph Newton 148-429, P.O. Box 69, London, OH 43140. (1)

I am a gay inmate, to be released in March 1981. Age 33, green bedroom eyes; do not smoke; enjoyed first gay sex at age 12; worked as a nude model ... Please write this morning. Good night dear, love and french kisses: Walter Walters #12880, Northern Nevada Correctional Center, P.O. Box 607, Carson City, NV 89701. (1)

Lester Davenport would like some books to read and someone to write to. His address is Box 112, c01662, Joliet, IL 60434. He's doing life.

In solitary. Seeking sincere friend to write. Hope to be released in 6 mon. James Dunn, P.M.B. 68335, C.B.B. Angola, LA 70712.

I need a friend to have a dialogue with. I'm 24 and my address is: Michael Dyer, 78C678, Box 367 MCP, Danemora, NY 12929.

Anybody out there in TEXAS? I'll be out in June and need to start making contacts with gay people in the area I'll be paroled. Let me hear from you! Tim Sardich 148-350, P.O. Box 69, London, OH 43140.

Young, black male interested in meeting a nice gay to build a lasting relationship. I am open-minded so race doesn't matter. Please write: Greg Johnson, #039201, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

Being gay and in prison is a very lonely experience. I would like to get some gay contacts on the outside that could give me some positive strokes. Please write: Charles E. "Chip" Skinner, 32439, P.O. Box 2800, Lincoln, NE 68502.

I am 24, love people and religion and have many interests. With some luck I'll be out in a year. It would be nice to start making some contacts now. Please write: Edgar Newcomb, #148924, P.O. Box 69, London, OH 43140.

Help, I'm scared! Want to make connections with gay people. Am being harassed by prison authorities for being what I am — GAY. Roberto Brown, Box 43, Norfolk, MA 02056. (1)

Wish to correspond with other gays or bisexuals in the free world. I'm 27, very well hung, and very lonely. Needless to say this loneliness is very destructive. Please write: Jack Cummings, 137502, P.O. Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699.

Good morning! How is the Gay Community News coming along? I would like some gay companionship. I'm gay myself and a lovely 28. Shemecca Goings 76A3522, Clinton Correctional Facility, Box 367, Dannemora, NY 12929.

I am seeking a relationship with a successful career male who is emotionally mature, independent, honest and sincere. Age 25-50. Looks not important. Ronald R. Broomfield, No.144-239, P.O. Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699.

Hil Let me introduce myself. I'm 30 and looking for a long term relationship with someone between the ages of 18 and 35 who can handle 8 of the damnedest there is. Darrell Shirlis, No.069847-T-2-S-14, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

I'm 22 and writing to ask that someone who is looking for a dear friend should write me. Frank Evans, Q-2-W-5, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

Young male looking for correspondence with open-minded male. Must be sincere, sensual and for real. No games please. Daniel Tetting 055509, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

I am a lover and would enjoy hearing from some of you lovers out there. Hugo Johnson, 145-895, P.O. Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699.

Into astrology, travelling, music. Am paramedic, outspoken and lonely. Will answer for sure and will attempt to bring some sort of cheer to whoever I write. Carwein Hardnett #151-849, P.O. Box 69, London, OH 43140. (1)

Gay male, 25, not hung on looks, will be OUT in 9 months, looking for someone between ages of 25 and 65 for serious friendship. Larry Shears, #020889, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091, Apt. 17-3204 (1)

Would like to write gay folks in the free world. I'm Italian, 33 yrs young, 180 lbs of pure love. Into sports, music and body contact. Richard L. Corea, #74901 CCR, Angola, LA 70712. (1)

Someone in the NGTF said you would run an ad for me for free and maybe send me your paper. Gee, I hope so. I'm 19 and my relatives are in Germany and I can't relate to anyone here. Please help me find someone. Charles D. Meser #025822, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091, R-2, N-6. (1)

Calendar

weekly events

sundays

Boston, MA — Gay Recreational Activities Committee (GRAC). Swimming at Lindemann Center (Stanford St./Gov't Ctr.). Men and women. 2-4pm.

Boston, MA — Gay Recreational Activities Committee (GRAC). Roller skating. Hetch Shell, Esplanade. Men and women. Call 282-9161 for info.

Boston, MA — Chiltern Men's Basketball. Lindemann Center (Gov't Ctr.). 4:30-6pm. Info: 227-6167.

Boston, MA — Gay AiAnon meets at Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St. Gay men and women. 1pm.

Boston, MA — Gay AA meets at Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St. Gay men and women. 2:30pm.

New York, NY — Lesbian Feminist Liberation. Women's discussion. Women's Center, 243 W. 20th St. 691-5460. 3pm.

New York, NY — Men's rap. For gay and bisexual men. Identity House, 544 6th Ave. 243-8181. 2:30pm.

mondays

Boston, MA — Gay Light Support Group for high school and college age women who are, or are considering being, lesbians. Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston. 7-9pm. Join us for raps, projects and outings.

coming events

mar 18 tues

Boston, MA — GCN monthly membership meeting. 6:30pm. 22 Bromfield St. Special surprise from the Capitol.

Boston, MA — Gay Way (WBUR, 90.9FM). Lucia Valeska (NGTF CoChair) and Steve Edean (Gay Rights National Lobby) will be Ann and David's guests. 8:30pm.

New York, NY — Meeting of the NYC Branch of Powder Ridge Conf. to plan NE Conf. of multinational lesbian and gay male feminist socialists to be held at Powder Ridge Ski Area, Middlefield, CT, May 23-26. At NY Marxist School, 151 W 19th St. For more info call 988-3012. (People needed in Boston area to help publicize this conference. If interested write: Powder Ridge Conf. Box 512, Village Sta. NY 10014.

New York, NY — West Side Discussion Group. 'A place in the sun': 2 women discuss their solar energy business enterprise. 26 9th Ave., 8:30pm. All women welcome. \$2 donation.

Cambridge, MA — Women's Community Health Center. Open House. 639 Mass Ave, Rm 210. 5:30pm. For info call 547-2302.

19 wed

Cambridge, MA — Harvard Divinity School Lesbian and Gay Caucus, and the Office of Women's Programs present a film, 'Between Men', about how society molds male behavior and its relationship to the military establishment. Sperry Rm of Divinity School, 45 Francis Ave. 7:30pm. 50c. Info: 495-5705.

Boston, MA — Mass Gay Political Caucus and Boston National Organization for Women will hold a joint benefit at Boston's Museum of Transportation, honoring State Rep Barney Frank and Lucia Valeska, co-director of the National Gay Task Force. Tickets \$10 available at Buddies, Somewhere and Copley Flair.

Salem, MA — North Shore Gay Alliance. Volleyball for Lesbians and Gay Men at the gym in Salem State College Administration Bldg. 7-10pm.

Cambridge, MA — An evening of men's sharing their experiences through writing with poet Robert Smyth. At Cambridge Food Coop, 580 Mass Ave, Central Sq. Info: 445-8551.

Battleboro, VT — Southern Vermont Gay Men meet every 4th Monday at the Common Ground, 25 Elliot St. 7:30pm.

Morristown, NJ — Gay Activist Alliance in Morris County (GAAMC). Meetings, discussions, socials. Morristown Unitarian, Normandy Heights Rd. 762-6217. (NJ Gay Switchboard: (609)921-2565.

New York, NY — Lesbian Feminist Liberation. Meeting. Women's Center, 243 W 20th St. 691-5480. 7:30pm.

New York, NY — Comite Homosexual Latinoamericano. Meeting for men and women. 8pm. 339 Lafayette St. 877-0237.

tuesdays

Boston, MA — ClearSpace rap groups: Living as a lesbian woman, Gay Male experience, Bisexual groups, Women's Issues. Second Tuesdays. Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston, 8pm.

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis. Organization for women. Discussion group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1131 Mass Ave. 8pm. Call 661-3633 for info on all DOB activities.

Boston, MA — Gay Way radio program. (WBUR, 90.9FM) Join co-hosts Ann Maguire and David Socla and their guests. 8:30pm.

New York, NY — Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Meetings on alternate Tuesdays. 156 5th Ave Room 505. 924-2970.

wednesdays

Boston, MA — OUT HERE! Evening rap group organized by and for lesbian and gay youth 14-21 years old. Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston, 7-9pm. Join us to meet and talk about our lives.

New York, NY — Lesbian Feminist Liberation presents a forum on 'Women in politics' at NYU Loeb Student Center, 566 LaGuardia Pl. Rm 310. 7:30pm. \$3 contribution, more if/less if. All women welcome.

20 thurs

Boston, MA — GCN LAYOUT. SEE THURSDAYS ABOVE FOR DETAILS.

Cambridge, MA — Planning meeting for lesbian/gay community meeting on racism. 285 Harvard St. Apt. 102, near Central Sq. 7pm. For more info call 536-0572. All individuals and groups interested in contributing to this discussion are encouraged to attend.

New York, NY — West Side Discussion Group. 'Positive body image' with dance movement therapist Aaron Cohen. 26 9th Ave, \$2, social hour follows. 8:30pm.

New York, NY — Gay Women's Alternative. A look at emotional intimacy and its problems. At the Universalist Church, Central Park West at 76th. 8pm. \$3. All women welcome.

Boston, MA — Surviving as a tenant: The daily politics of rental housing. Learn your rights as a tenant and what's happening in the housing industry. Eight Thursdays, 7-9pm. Call 267-1022 for more info.

21 fri

Cambridge, MA — FAG RAG meets Black Rose! John Wieners and other FAG Reg Collective members will hold forth on hustling, gays in prison, pornography, and more at the meeting of the local encherlist lecture series. FREE! MIT Bldg 9, Rm 150, 105 Mess Ave. Info: 492-6259. 8 pm

Boston, MA — GCN GETTING THE PAPER OUT! SEE FRIDAYS ABOVE FOR DETAILS.

Cambridge, MA — Women's Equinox Dance. 8-12pm at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. DJ by Melanie. Childcare provided. \$3 donation to benefit local lesbian custody cases. Sponsored by Lesbians With Children Support Group and Cambridge Women's Center.

Bangor, ME — Maine Lesbian and Gay Symposium VII: "Our decade — the '80s". Mar 21-23 (Fri night til Sun noon) at Bangor Community College. Films, social events, speakers from NGTF and Gay Rights National Lobby. Contact Wilde-Steln Club, U of Maine at Orono 04469.

Boston, MA — Gay Recreational Activities Committee (GRAC). Volleyball. Lindemann Center (Stanford St./Gov't Ctr.). Men and women. 8-10pm.

Cambridge, MA — Open meetings to organize a women's political party. Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 7pm. All women invited. For info call 876-0704.

Bellows Falls, VT — The Colfee House. Southern Vermont Lesbian's/Gay Men's Coalition. 7-11pm at the Andrews Inn, on the Square. Refreshments, music, poetry. For info call Kevin 387-GAYS.

New York, NY — Chelsea Gay Association. Meets last Wednesday of the month. Coffee-house. Call 691-0057 for info.

thursdays

Boston, MA — GCN prootreading and layout (basically cutting and pasting with a little beer and pretzels on the side). No experience necessary. We'll teach you all you need to know! Prootreading begins 5-ish and layout 6-ish. 22 Bromfield St. (near Park St and Westinghouse St subway stops), 2nd floor. 426-4469.

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis. Organization for women. Discussions and social hour. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. 8pm. Call 661-3633 for info on all DOB activities.

Cambridge, MA — Lesbians with children. Support group. 8-10pm. Cambridge Women's Center, 48 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

Cambridge, MA — Lesbian Liberation. 7:30-8pm munchies; 8-10pm discussion. Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807

New York, NY — Gay Activists Alliance regular meeting at 339 Lafayette St. (near Houston). 8:30pm. All are welcome!

New Haven, CT — Lilac — the women's coffeehouse. The Women's Chorus of New Haven. 148 Orange St. Women's Center. 8:30-midnight. \$3.

22 sat

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mt. Club — Mt. Washington Valley winter weekend in North Conway NH. Call Josh at 726-8650 for details.

Cambridge, MA — Potluck and Lesbo (bingo) with the Daughters of Bilitis, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. 6pm. \$1 donation and bring food to share.

Dorchester, MA — Woman's Work, Woman's Health: a conference on health and safety for working women. UMass Dorchester Science Bldg. 9am-5pm. Workshops on sexual harassment on the job, reproductive hazards and workplace problems. Info: (617) 482-4283.

Cambridge, MA — No-Nuke Contra Dance. First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St. (Harvard Sq.) Beginners Welcome. New Three Mile Island Documentary. \$3 more if/less if, to benefit Seabrook Summer Campaign. Info: 661-8104.

New York, NY — Gay Youth Rap Group. Completely youth run. 21 and under only. Call Cliff at 685-6462 for info.

23 sun

Boston, MA — Lesbian and Gay Pride Week planning meeting to BEGIN organizing the 2 weeks of activities surrounding the Parade on June 21. At Buddies, 733 Boylston. 2pm.

Boston, MA — 'Fun on a Sunday': a benefit for the Lesbian/Gay Hotline. At Somewhere, 295 Franklin St. 4-9pm. Featuring rock groups, comedy and others. \$3 donation.

Boston, MA — Buffet at Herbies to benefit the Herbies softball team. 4-8pm. Free food, prizes. 1254 Boylston.

Cambridge, MA — Closet Space (WCAS 740AM) Charles Bedard interviews members of the Chiltern Mountain Club. New time: 11am.

Boston, MA — New England Assoc. of Gay Psychiatrists. Monthly meeting, featuring State Rep. Barney Frank. 2-5pm. Call 536-2665 for details.

Newburyport, MA — 'Monday Morning Nouns', a documentary film about lesbianism and the coming out experience by Boston filmmaker Micki Dickoff. YMCA, 96 State St. (Newburyport center). 7:30pm. \$2. Followed by discussion with filmmaker.

Somerville, MA — Lesbian support group for younger women in Somerville. 7:30pm at the Somerville Women's Center, 38 Union Square (second floor over laundromat). For info call 623-9340.

fridays

Boston, MA — Come to GCN office, 22 Bromfield (near Park St. subway stop), 2nd floor, anytime after 5 for as long or as short as you like (until about 11pm) to help send the paper out to subscribers. (There are LOTS of them and we do need help!) Refreshments and good times. Men and women welcome. 426-4469.

Boston, MA — 'Musically Speaking' with Melanie Berzon. Women's radio program: Jazz, R&B, women's music, ideas, events information. 1-4pm on WMBR (88.1 FM) Call 494-8810 for input.

Boston, MA — Chiltern Men's Swimming. 6-7pm over 40 only; 7-9pm all ages. Lindemann Center (near Gov't Ctr). Info 227-6167.

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis. Over 35 rap group at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. 8pm. (4th Friday end 2nd Wednesday of each month).

New Bedford, MA — Support Group for gay women meets at Women's Center, 15 Chestnut St. 7pm. 996-3341.

saturdays

Boston, MA — Out Here! for lesbians and gay youth 14-21 meets from noon to 5pm at the Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston. Join us for outings, raps and projects.

New York, NY — Gay Youth rap group. 26 9th Ave 1pm. 242-1212.

New York, NY — Gay Atheist League of America (GALA). 'Sex and religion'. Zuckerman Studio, 231 W. 18th St. 3rd fl. 5pm.

New York, NY — Meeting of Parents of Gays. Metropolitan Duane Methodist Church, 7th Ave and W 13th St. 3pm.

New York, NY — Meeting of Gay and Lesbian Blind at the Gay and Lesbian Services Center, 110 E. 23rd St. Suite 502. 4-6pm.

Boston, MA — 'War may scare you but it's good for business': a talk by George Wald, Nobel prize winner and long-time anti-war activist. Morse Aud. 602 Comm Ave. 11am.

24 mon

Battleboro, VT — Southern Vermont Lesbians/Gay Men's Coalition. Benefit Mexican dinner at the Common Ground, 25 Elliot St. 6-9pm. Dinner prices start at \$2.50, beer and wine served, followed by a full evening of music.

Boston, MA — What do sterilization, IQ tests, welfare and slavery have in common? 'Science as an excuse for racism and genocide' will be a course offered by A. Waterflow at Harriet Tubman House in the South End. Tonight 7-9pm is the first of 8 Mon night sessions. Call 267-1022 for info.

New York, NY — Gay Community Marching Band Rehearsal. Info: Bob at 864-1700 x709, or Nancy at 673-5442.

New York, NY — Meeting of the NY Coalition of Black/Third World Lesbians and Gays, 26 9th Ave, 3rd fl. 7:30pm. Call 242-1212 for info.

25 tues

Boston, MA — Opening Space. David Goodstein will introduce the community to the Advocate experience, a self-discovery experience for lesbians and gay men. 8pm. New England Life Hall, 225 Clarendon St. For tickets or info call 661-8594.

Ridgewood, NJ — GAA/New Jersey. Square Dance. Beginners welcome. Unitarian Church, 8pm. Info: 343-6402, T-Th, 7:30-10:30.

apr 1 tues

Cambridge, MA — Janus House Resource Network for Lesbian Mothers is sponsoring a series of meetings. Tonight: friendship networks. Childcare in your home available by calling 661-2537 a week in advance. 2 Bay St. \$2.

The deadline for Calendar items is Tuesday at noon for the following issue.